Celebrating 67 Years Of Service To Amateur Radio & Our Community

ARRL Affiliated & Special Services Club

ARRL Field Day 2026

Ham Radio Open House!

Come Visit During The Greatest On-Air Event Of The Year!

What : Amateur Radio Field Day, National 24-Hour Operating Event

Where : Gloucester County 4H Fairgrounds 235 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77), Mullica Hill, NJ

When : Saturday, June 27, 2026 @ 4-6pm Open House

Curious about ham radio? This is the event for you!
Family Friendly! Visitors Welcome!

What might you see? Come on out and see for yourself how far a radio wave might travel on just 100 watts and a piece of wire for an antenna, and how digital technologies are transforming this into a growing hobby shared by over 770,000 licensed enthusiasts in the United States alone. During this event, FCC licensed amateur radio operators (Hams) will be setting up with off-the-grid power and portable radios in the field to establish voice, digital, and code connectivity with thousands of other hams setting up to do the same, both here in the Philadelphia area, and all over the United States and Canada this same weekend.

What's the goal? To learn how to operate in abnormal situations and in less than optimal conditions as training to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness, while showcasing the capabilities of Amateur Radio to be able to get through when all else may fail, such as following a hurricane, or other disaster, where infrastructure we rely on daily, such as cell phone service and electricity from the power grid, may not be available. And to have Fun!

Hope to see you at the Open House!

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Clubhouse Field Site
https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/2026-field-day.html
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds • 235 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77) • Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
GPS : 39.717000°, -75.209950°

CrossTalk

June 2026 *Serving Amateur Radio & Our Community For 67 Years* *Issue 67 : 06*

A

2026 Club Officers

President :	Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF
Vice President :	Ronald Block NR2B
Treasurer :	John O'Connell K2QA
Recording Secretary :	John Zaruba Jr K2ZA
Corresponding Secretary :	Michael Resnick N2WOQ

Trustees - 4 Year Term

Sheldon Parker K2MEN	(2023-2026)
Len Rust W2LJR	(2024-2027)
Earl Moore KC2NCH	(2025-2028)
Greg Ciraula K3GC	(2026-2029)

Directors - 3 Year Term

Al Arrison KB2AYU	(2024-2026)	Frank Romeo N3PUU	(2025-2027)
Bill Price NJ2S	(2024-2026)	Chris Prioli AD2CS	(2026-2028)
Jeffrey Garth WB2ZBN	(2025-2027)	James Wright N2GXJ	(2026-2028)

General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 03, 2026 @ 1900 Hours
In-Person & ZOOM : 982 4039 1944, 091084

Tech Saturday Forum
Saturday, June 06, 2026 @ 0900 Hours
W2MMD Clubhouse

License Testing Session
Thursday, June 11, 2026 @ 1900 Hours
W2MMD Clubhouse

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 1900 Hours
W2MMD Clubhouse

Dinner @ The W2MMD Clubhouse
Wednesday, June 24, 2026

2026 ARRL Field Day
Saturday, June 27 To Sunday, June 28, 2026

Tuesday AfterNoon 2M Net @ 1200 Hours

Thursday Night 2M Net @ 2000 Hours

Monday & Thursday Night 40M Net @ 1930 Hours
7.165 MHz (+/- 10 kHz)

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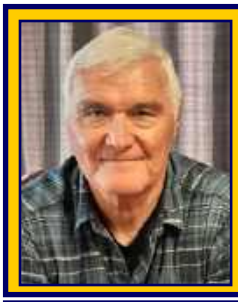


President's Letter
Jon Pearce WB2MNF

June 2026

May was a packed month - a dozen members gathered at the Clubhouse for the WSPR station build sessions on the 2nd and 9th, and a contingent of us made the annual pilgrimage to Dayton. Both are worth talking about.

Hamvention 2026

If you've never been to the Dayton Hamvention, it's a little hard to describe. Imagine 37,924 ham radio operators descending on a fairgrounds in Xenia, OH filling seven buildings with exhibitors selling everything from tower hardware down to individual connectors, with four more buildings running back-to-back seminars all day. Throw in special-interest group dinners in the evenings, and you've got a three-day immersion in everything ham radio.

I flew in, which means I wasn't hauling home a truckload of equipment like some people I know. But my real agenda wasn't shopping - it was intelligence gathering. Dayton is one of those rare places where you can sit in a room with genuine national-level experts on almost any topic in the hobby, then corner them in the hallway afterward for a real conversation. I had three areas on my list : public service communications, satellite telemetry, and a check-in with the TAPR contact who organized our WSPR board project.

Several other GCARC members made the trip as well. **Angela and Craig (KE2DRJ and KE2GNU)** were there, with Angela focused on youth projects and ISS communications while Craig dug into public service best practices. **John O'Connell K2QA**, **Terry Rossi N2LQH** rounded out the GCARC NJ contingent, and it was great to see **Tony Starr K3TS** who had driven up from his new QTH in PA. **Cory Sickles WA3UVV** was manning the Yaesu booth.

Public Service Communications

The public service communications session was one of the highlights of the whole conference, at least for me. **Michael Stitley KE2CIE** is a professional emergency manager who runs a county emergency response team; **Jamie Arnold W2GPR** is a volunteer ham embedded with that group. Together they made a compelling case for how hams need to think about their role in public service situations - and it's probably not how most of us think about it.

The key insight : we shouldn't be showing up as radio operators. We should be showing up as communications experts who can do things nobody else can do when standard systems fail, get overloaded, or simply don't have the right capabilities. The ability to spin up an ad hoc voice or digital network on short notice, with no infrastructure, is genuinely rare and genuinely valuable - but it only gets recognized if the right people are making the case to public officials before an emergency happens. Jamie was pointed about this : someone needs to be having those conversations now, not during a crisis, and we need to be able to demonstrate credibility to get onto the team. There's a lot more to having an effective public service team than a few minutes on a weekly net.

We also heard from other groups about creative ways to build that relationship with emergency management. The Sussex County, OH EmComm group, for instance, is certified to conduct post-disaster damage assessments which gets them embedded in the emergency management structure and positions them to expand into communications roles the moment they're needed. Smart approach.

President's Letter - Continued on page 4

President's Letter - Continued from page 3

All of these folks offered to continue the conversation, which will be a great ongoing resource.

STEM Camp : Space Communications

The other big item on my Dayton agenda was prep work for the Woodruff Middle School STEM Camp, coming to the Clubhouse this summer. This year's theme is Space Communications, and we're designing it to hopefully be comprehensive and fun. Seven students will spend the camp working with SDR radios, measuring feedline loss, learning orbital mechanics with Gpredict, making actual voice contacts through satellites, and decoding real satellite telemetry. The whole program builds toward a longer-term goal that Angela is driving : a live QSO with an astronaut on the ISS targeted for next year.

Alan Johnston KU2Y, AMSAT's VP of Education and a friend of several of us, was at Dayton, and John K2QA and I both had extended conversations with him about using the AMSAT CubeSat Simulator in the camp. This device lets students transmit and receive the same telemetry format they'd see from an actual satellite in orbit - except that you can see what's happening to the satellite that makes the telemetry change. Angela will be getting one of these devices at the ARRL Teachers' Space Communications seminar in July, and we'll put it to work at the end of the session. The goal with all of this is straightforward : give these middle school students a head start that shows up later, whether that's in an engineering program, a job interview, or just a lifelong passion for the hobby.

WSPR Build Sessions

About a dozen members turned out for the WSPR station build sessions on May 2nd and 9th - more details and photos are on Page 37 in this issue of CrossTalk. Nice work to everyone who participated.

Field Day

But now it's time for Field Day, GCARC's signature activity of the year, and it's coming up fast. If you're a new member - especially if you're a newly licensed ham - please come out for this. Show up Saturday morning for set-up. You do not need to be an experienced operator to contribute; you just need to show up. If you're not ready to sit down at the 40-meter CW station (and honestly, most of us aren't), you can absolutely help K3TS put up his tower and beam. There is something for everyone to do, from antenna work to logistics to operating every mode we've got.

Here's what I'll promise you : if you arrive not knowing anyone, you won't leave that way. That's just how Field Day works.

I'll be running the satellite station. If that sounds interesting to you, find me and we'll chase that 100-point satellite bonus together. If not there are plenty of other opportunities. See you there.

73 de Jon WB2MNF

Welcome New Club Members :

Kevin Durrenberger AD2NB, an Amateur Extra Class from Mount Royal, NJ.
Anthony Giardina Jr WE2D, an Amateur Extra Class from Galloway Township, NJ.
William Guerro Sr W4WAG, an Amateur Extra Class from Egg Harbor Township, NJ.
Carl Hyde W2CSH, an Amateur Extra Class from Mount Laurel, NJ.
Robert Lange, an Associate Member from Somerdale, NJ.
Steven Marrano KC2VNI (Returning Member 2015), an Amateur Extra Class from Atco, NJ.

We are glad to have you as a member of the Club and hope to see you regularly at Club meetings, events, and activities. Hope to see you at :

- **The June 3rd General Membership Meeting, either in-person or on ZOOM**
- **The June 6th Tech Saturday Forum @ the W2MMD Clubhouse**
- **The Board of Directors Meeting on June 17th**
- **The Dinner @ The W2MMD Clubhouse on June 24th**
- **Field Day : June 27 - 28, 2026**

We also hope to "SEE" you on the "AIR" on the following nets :

- **Sunday Night Skywarn 2 Meter Net @ 1930 Hours**
- **Sunday Night ARES 2 Meter Net @ 2000 Hours**
- **Tuesday AfterNoon 2 Meter Net @ 1200 Hours**
- **Monday & Thursday Night 40 Meter Nets on 7.165 MHz (+/- 10 kHz) @ 1930 Hours**
- **Thursday Night Rag Chew 2 Meter Net @ 2000 Hours**

All 2 Meter Nets are on our 147.180 MHz (PL 131.8) repeater or on EchoLink W2MMD-R.

ARRL is calling on all radio amateurs and GRMS licensees to join our nationwide grassroots campaign to pass the **Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act**. ARRL has made it very easy to send your letters to Congress. Hams should go to **https://send-a-letter.org/HOA** and GMRS users should go to **https://send-a-letter.org/GMRS**. The letters will automatically be sent to your elected officials encouraging them to support the bipartisan bills. Passage would give amateur radio operators the same rights to install antennas on their property as those enjoyed by users of TV antennas, wireless internet, and flagpoles. Radio clubs should also prepare letters of support, signed by each club officer.

See instructions for clubs (PDF) and a sample letter for clubs (DOCX). For more information about the ARRL campaign to Pass The Bill, visit **www.arrl.org/HOA**. And please share these YouTube videos on your personal social media.

Article Credit : The ARRL Letter for November 6, 2025 - www.arrl.org

So you find our website confusing, can't find anything

I have created a page called "Quick Links"

On this page you will find "Buttons" to some the most popular pages
I will add more as time goes on, but I hope this helps your journey navigating through your Club Website!
https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/quick-links.html

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 03, 2026 @ 1900 Hours

Pfeiffer Community Center

Simulcast Live Via ZOOM : Meeting ID : 982 4039 1944; Passcode : 091084
Join ZOOM Meeting Link : https://bit.ly/4s67geS

Go to : https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/2026-content--activities--resources.html to download the ZOOM log-on instructions PDF

Meteor Scatter : Getting On The Air - How It Works!

By Jim Wilson K5ND

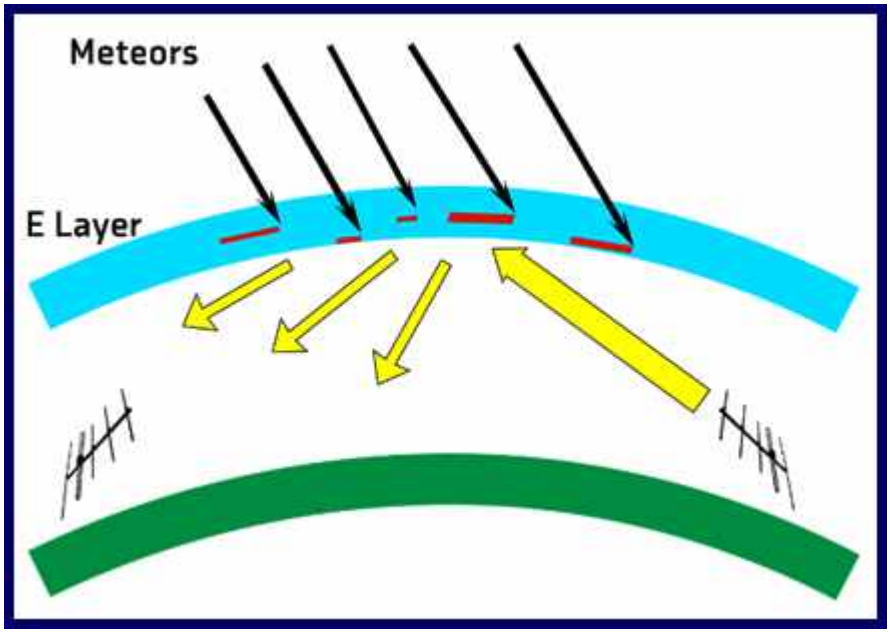
Amateur radio operators have long taken advantage of natural atmospheric phenomena, but few are as dramatic - or as fleeting - as meteor scatter. Every day, NASA estimates that roughly 48 tons of meteoric material enter the Earth's atmosphere. These particles, often no larger than a grain of rice, strike the atmosphere at extraordinary velocities ranging from 30 to 70 kilometers (18 to 43 miles) per second.

As these meteors burn up, they leave behind ionized trails in the E Layer - columns of plasma stretching nearly 12 miles long that persist for only a few seconds to a little more than a minute. These brief windows of ionization can support radio communication on frequencies from 30 MHz to 220 MHz, enabling contacts far beyond normal VHF range. But making successful QSOs through meteor scatter requires the right timing, the right tools, and the right operating techniques.

In this month's Zoom presentation **Jim Wilson K5ND**, a blogger and contributing editor for QST, will explore the science behind meteor scatter propagation, explain why and when it occurs, and demonstrate how modern operators use WSJT-X's MSK144 mode to take advantage of these short lived ionized trails. The program will also cover station setup, operating protocols, recommended equipment, and online resources that can significantly improve your results.

Join us to learn how to turn meteors into reliable VHF communication paths - and how you can begin making meteor scatter contacts from your own station.

See you there!



Tech Saturday Forum

June 06, 2026 @ 0900 Hours

W2MMD Clubhouse
Forum Topic : Introduction To GCARC Field Day

GCARC Field Day 2026 Schedule

By Jim Wright N2GXJ

Can you guess what is always the fourth weekend in June? The answer we're looking for is ARRL Field Day, of course! And it is almost here!

Everyone (guests included) is invited, and encouraged to stop by. Hope to see you there!

Tentative schedule :

Saturday, June 6, 2026 :

- **9am Tech Saturday at the Clubhouse : Intro To GCARC Field Day!** Come on out to learn what this tradition is all about. Field Day chairs will be present to help answer questions after the presentation, and then will be meeting together in our only planned in-person get together to finalize on-field locations, hand out reserved band-pass filters, resolve issues, review assignments, and coordinate other details before the big event.

Friday, June 26, 2026 :

- Campers roll in, setup may begin. Check with station-owners for specific times (typically > 5pm)

Saturday, June 27, 2026 :

- Morning - Friday's station setup continues
- Noon - Lunch break
- 1pm - Radio chairs / final briefing / safety meeting @ Clubhouse
- 2pm - Stations go live across all of North America! (18:00 UTC)
- 2:30pm - Bonus education activity @ Clubhouse
- 3pm - Visitors, tours, all afternoon
- 5pm - Dinner for operators
- 6pm - Dinner open for all others
- Sunset 8:32pm, twilight ends by 9pm
- Snacks in Clubhouse, open all night

Sunday, June 28, 2026 :

- Sunrise 5:35am
- 7am - Breakfast for operators
- Noon - Stations begin tear down early - collect logs
- 2pm - Last stations off air!
- Turn in ADIF logs before leave site
- 4pm - Teardown complete

Wednesday, July 1, 2026 General Membership Meeting

- Club meeting (Pizza night), field day stories, and (hopefully) preliminary score reveal!

Field Day : June 27 - 28, 2026

Band, Operators, & Operating Modes Chart

Band	Operator (Contact)	Mode
160 Meters	*Available*	All Modes
80 Meters	*Available*	Phone
80 Meters	Darrell Neron AB2E	CW
80 Meters	**AB2E Can Cover*	Digital
40 Meters	Bill Price NJ2S	Phone
40 Meters	Sheldon Parker K2MEN	CW
40 Meters	Melissa Guenther KE2BWZ	Digital
20 Meters	Chris Prioli AD2CS	Phone
20 Meters	Tony Starr K3TS	CW
20 Meters	Eric Morris N2BRJ	Digital
15 Meters	Greg Ciraula K3GC	Phone
15 Meters	Darrell Neron AB2E	CW
15 Meters	**AB2E Can Cover*	Digital
10 Meters	*Available*	All Modes
6 Meters	Jerry Barnish K2EAB	CW
2 Meters	Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY	All Modes
70CM	*Available*	All Modes
GOTA	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	All Modes
Formal	Court Smith KD2SPJ	All Modes
Satellite	Jon Pearce WB2MNF	All Modes
	** If Still Open, Can Also Cover*	

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Field Day : June 27 - 28, 2026

Support Staff and Bonus Points Information

Section	Support Staff / Bonus Points	Primary Contact	Points Available
	Culinary Support Staff	Jeff Garth WB2ZBN (Etc.)	*Priceless !!!*
7.2	Power Multiplier	Jim Wright N2GXJ	x2 (for Class A if all <100 Watts)
7.3.1	100% Emergency Power	Jim Wright N2GXJ	100 Points/TX, Max 2000 Points
7.3.2	Media Publicity	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	100 Points (Submit Evidence)
7.3.3	Public Location	Jim Wright N2GXJ	100 Points
7.3.4	Public Information Table	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	100 Points (Submit Evidence)
7.3.5	Formal Message To ARRL SM/SEC	Court Smith KD2SPJ	100 Points (Submit Evidence)
7.3.6	NTS/ICS-213 Messages Handled (# Msgs)	Court Smith KD2SPJ	10 Points/Each, Max 100 Points (Submit Evidence)
7.3.7	Satellite QSO	Jon Pearce WB2MNF	100 Points/1, Max 100 - In Log Band SAT
7.3.8	Alternate Power QSOs (Min 5)	Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY	100 Points (Separate Log, Submit Evidence)
7.3.9	*W1AW Bulletin*	*Available*	*100 Points (Submit Copy As Evidence)*
7.3.10	Educational Activity Bonus	Chris Prioli AD2CS	100 Points
7.3.11	Site Visit By Elected Governmental Official	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	100 Points
7.3.12	Site Visit By Representative Of ARES Served Agency	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	100 Points
7.3.13.1	GOTA Bonus (Names, Modes, #QSO Each)	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	5 Points/Each QSO, No Limit (Submit Evidence)
7.3.13.2	GOTA Coach Bonus Claimed	Mike Resnick N2WOQ	100 Points (Submit Evidence Min 10 QSO)
7.3.14	Web Submission	Jim Wright N2GXJ	50 Points
7.3.15	Youth Element Bonus (18 or Under, #QSO	Radio Chairs (Records Required)	20 Points/Each, Max 100 Points
7.3.16	Social Media Bonus (FB, Twitter, Etc.)	Jeff Garth WB2ZBN	100 Points
7.3.17	Safety Officer Bonus (Class A Only)	Ron Block NR2B	100 Points (Submit Evidence)
7.3.18	Site Responsibilities (Class B, C, D, E, F Only)	N/A For W2MMD	50 Points

New Members Support Group & Discord Channel

- **Objective : To focus Club resources on the needs of newly licensed members**
- **Supported by "new_members" Discord Channel**

Additional Support :

- **Saturday Morning @ The W2MMD Clubhouse**
- **GCARC@MAILMAN.QTH.NET Club E-mail Reflector**
- **E-Mail President @ w2mmd.org**

DAs & DITs

>> Court Smith KD2SPJ, reports, The **Long Island CW Club (LICW)** is pleased to offer focused Field Day CW training during the month of June. These sessions are open to all amateur radio operators. You do not need to be a member of LICW to attend, and there is no charge for the training.
https://longislandcwclub.org/2026fieldday

>> Some Club members comments on the passing of Bruce Canino KD2LBU :

- **Karl Frank W2KBF :** Bruce KD2LBU was kind, soft spoken and always showed up for ARES exercises.
- **Herb Dyer KT2Y :** Saddened greatly by this news. Bruce was my unofficial Elmer when I joined the Club in 2017. Got me volunteering for all kinds of things immediately after I joined (crop walk, field day, hamfest) all in the first months of membership. He was a book of knowledge for a newbie. A smart kind man who will be missed. RIP Bruce
- **Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY :** I am so sorry to hear this. Had lots of fun with him and the men and women on the fox hunts. Such a nice man.
- **Gary Hewitt N2WHV :** So sadden to hear this. Bruce was a very nice an intelligent man.

Be A Club Volunteer!

2026 / 2027 Clubhouse Construction Volunteer Projects :

Shed : Build Ramp

Clubhouse :

- **Build Ramp**
- **Replace Interior Front Door**
- **Power Wash Siding**
- **Replace Back Steps**
- **Replace paneling in Main Room**
- **Replace AC in Main & HF rooms**
- **Install drop ceiling in Main Room**

Lightning Protection Project :

- **Complete grounding rod installation around Clubhouse and Towers**

Install Utilities On New Front Parking Lot Pole

Install Antennas On New VHF Towers

The Club regrets the passing of long time member & 2018 Club President Bruce Canino KD2LBU
DeMarco-Luisi Funeral Home Obituary :
https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/bruce-canino-obituary?id=61510801

Fox Hunt 9 : October 22, 2016

Fox Hunt 10 : March 19, 2017

Fox Hunt 32 : February 23, 2025
Bruce Canino KD2LBU, Karl Frank W2KBF, Al Arrison KB2AYU, Jim Wright N2GXJ, Frank Romeo N3PUU, Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY, Diane Amico W2WHD
Not pictured : Kathy Romeo

Fox Hunt 34 : September 14, 2025
Denver KE2GFG; Marc WM2Y; Earl KC2NCH; Karl W2KBF; Bruce KD2LBU

GCARC Monthly VE Exam Testing Summary - May 2026

By Chris Prioli AD2CS

The May 2026 GCARC VE session was held on Thursday, 14 May. The VE session was held at the W2MMD Clubhouse and was administered by Volunteer Examiners as listed below, with Chris Prioli AD2CS serving as Team Liaison for the event :

- **Greg Ciraula K3GC**
- **MaryLu Ciraula K3MLC**
- **Joe Gadoury N2JJG**
- *** Tony Giardina WE2D ***
- *** Bill Guerro W4WAG ***
- **Courtney Smith KD2SPJ**

Two of the VE names above may not be familiar to most of our members. These gentlemen came up from ACURA in Atlantic County to finish their training on the use of ExamTools for the administration of ARRL VEC sponsored VE exam sessions. This was their second visit to our Clubhouse for such training.

There was one single candidate, who sat for their Element 2 (Technician) exams, Element 3 (General) exam, and his Element 4 (Amateur Extra) exam. He was wildly successful in all three attempts. The candidate was :

- **Kevin Durrenberger AD2NB, newly minted Amateur Extra from Mount Royal, NJ.**

The VE Team proctored the exam session using mostly electronic methodologies. There was a problem with Internet connectivity that caused us to administer the first exam on paper. The problem resolved itself in time for the remaining exams to be presented on the computer. This means that the candidate completed the second and third exams online, and that all grading and submissions were done online as well.

GCARC VE Team Historical Summary

	Technician Class	General Class	Amateur Extra	Total
2016	18	8	6	32
2017	22	19	4	45
2018	29	23	5	57
2019	16	10	8	34
2020 *	8	4	1	13
2021 *	8	5	1	14
2022	22	15	18	55
2023	20	18	10	48
2024	22	12	6	40
2025	24	14	6	44
2026	5	1	2	8
2027				
2028				
2029				
2030				
Totals	194	129	67	390
	* Pandemic	Period		

The next regularly scheduled VE session will be held on Thursday, 11 June 2026, at 1900 Hours at the W2MMD Clubhouse. The VE team will be using the ExamTools system to its fullest capability, within our current technological means.

It is important that all test candidates going forward will be advised, whenever possible, to pre-register and pre-pay for the exam online. Specifics of that process are explained at : **https://veteam.w2mmd.org**

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club
YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/@W2MMD

What's happening in the ARRL Southern New Jersey Section??
Subscribe to the ARRL SNJ Section Groups.IO
https://groups.io/g/ARRLSouthernNewJerseySection

Membership Badges Ready For Pick-Up

They can be picked up at the W2MMD Clubhouse or at the monthly General Membership Meetings

Alex Calabrese WA2ADS
Jon Davidson KE2DYD
Robert Erenburg KD3BGJ
Jim Foster W3JNF
Deirdre Anne Hebert AD2GQ
Gary Hewitt N2WHV *
John McGonigle KC3ZJX
Jack Snyder AI2D
Harry Strahlendorf W3DNQ
Marian Yanka KE2GOL

The Clubhouse is open and accessible every Saturday from 0700 until 1600 Hours, and on the third and fourth Wednesday evening of each month as well as the second Thursday evening of each month from about 1700 until 2000 Hours.

The badges can also be picked up at any General Membership Meeting. They will be displayed at the Hospitality Table

If there is an asterisk (*) after your call sign above, your badge is a replacement and has a cost of $5.00 payable to the Club at the time of pickup of the badge.

Club Merchandise from the K2ZA Workshop

Contact John Zaruba Jr K2ZA at k2za@icloud.com

Go To : https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/club-merchandise.html

ADIF Logs Wanted When Operating As W2MMD @ The Clubhouse

By Jim Wright N2GXJ - Contact me via e-mail on Club Roster List

It is a common courtesy in ham radio to be able to QSL 2-way contacts made with other hams. We're pretty good about doing this for our field day contacts made each year, but are falling behind in this for contacts we make from the Clubhouse as W2MMD.

So here is the ask :

If you operate from the Clubhouse as W2MMD (e.g. on HF, UHF/VHF, or on Satellite, at Tech Saturday, or during contests or other), please email me the electronic log entries in ADIF format from the logger program you used for those contacts?

That way, just like I do following field day each year, I can get them uploaded to LOTW and to eQSL to offer the courtesy of an electronic QSL to those who make contact with us as W2MMD here in NJ.

Thank you

Regional (Atlantic & Hudson Divisions) Hamfests & Events

June 6, 2026 : Lockport Amateur Radio Association Hamfest, Cambria Volunteer Fire Hall, 4631 Cambria-Wilson Road, Route 425, Lockport, NY. **www.lockportara.us**

June 6, 2026 : Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club, Annual Hamfest 2026, Fair Lawn Memorial Pool, 1st Street and Berdan Avenue, Fair Lawn, NJ. **www.fairlawnarc.org**

June 7, 2026 : Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club, Outdoor Hamfest & Electronics Fair, 999 Stewart Avenue, Bethpage, NY. **www.limarc.org**

June 13, 2026 : Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club, Bloomsburg Hamfest, Lime Ridge Community Center, 6405 4th Street, Lime Ridge, PA. **www.cmarc.club**

June 13, 2026 : Skyline Ham Radio Club, Cortland Hamfest & Technology Fair, Cortland County Fairgrounds, 4301 Fairgrounds Drive, Cortland, NY. **www.skylinehamradioclub.org**

June 14, 2026 : BreezeShooters Amateur Radio Club, Hamfest, Computer & Electronics Show, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention, Butler Farm Show Grounds, 625 Evans City Road, Butler, PA. **www.breezeshooters.org**

June 20, 2026 : Rochester Amateur Radio Association, 93rd Rochester Hamfest, Barnard Fire Department Park, 410 Maiden Lane, Greece, NY. **www.rochesterham.org**

June 20, 2026 : Raritan Valley Radio Club, 2026 Hamfest, Piscataway High School, 100 Behmer Road, Piscataway, NJ. **www.w2qw.org**

June 21, 2026 : Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, BARC Father's Day Hamfest Expo, Arcadia Carnival Fairgrounds, 16020 Carinal Avenue, Upperco, MD. **www.w3ft.com**

GOLIATHON

Goliathon Obstacle Challenge
Saturday, June 06, 2026
Gloucester County 4-H Fair Grounds
https://www.goliathon.com

BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY
NJ2BB
AMATEUR RADIO STATION

Museum Ships Weekend 2026
0001Z June 6 through 2400Z June 7, 2026

The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring the Annual Museum Ships Weekend Event

Go to www.nj2bb.org/museum for more information

"Dinner @ The W2MMD Clubhouse"
Wednesday, June 24, 2026 @ 1800 Hours

Fox Hunt 36 : After Action Summary : Almonesson Creek Park

By Jim Wright N2GXJ

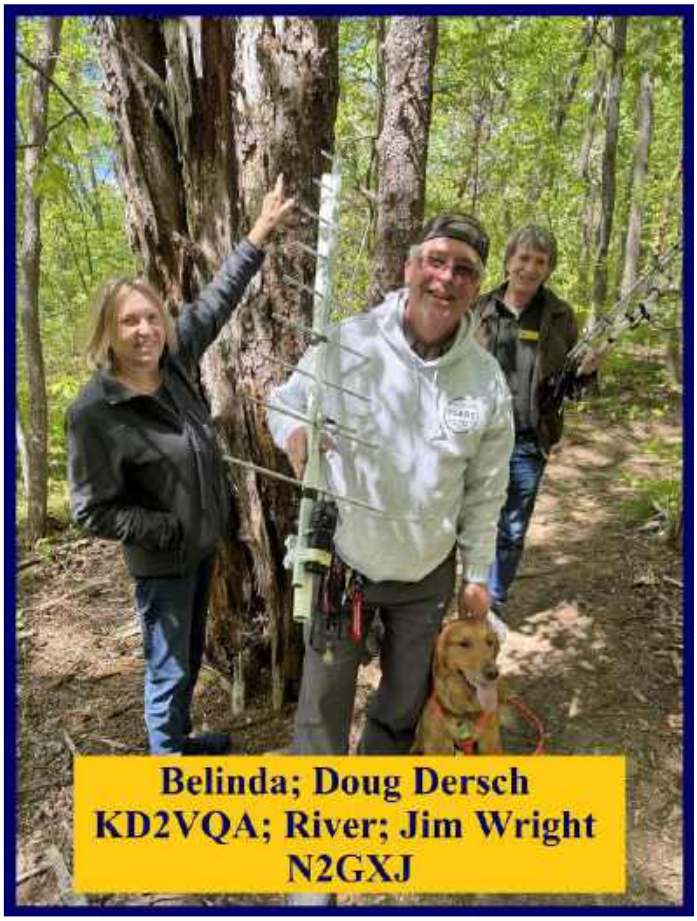
Al Arrison KB2AYU hid the transmitter today in a park with a very interesting history, **Almonesson Creek Park**, off of Cooper Street in Deptford. It was a little difficult to hear the fox from where we started, so we got a little help to get into the right area.

The cast for today's hunt included :

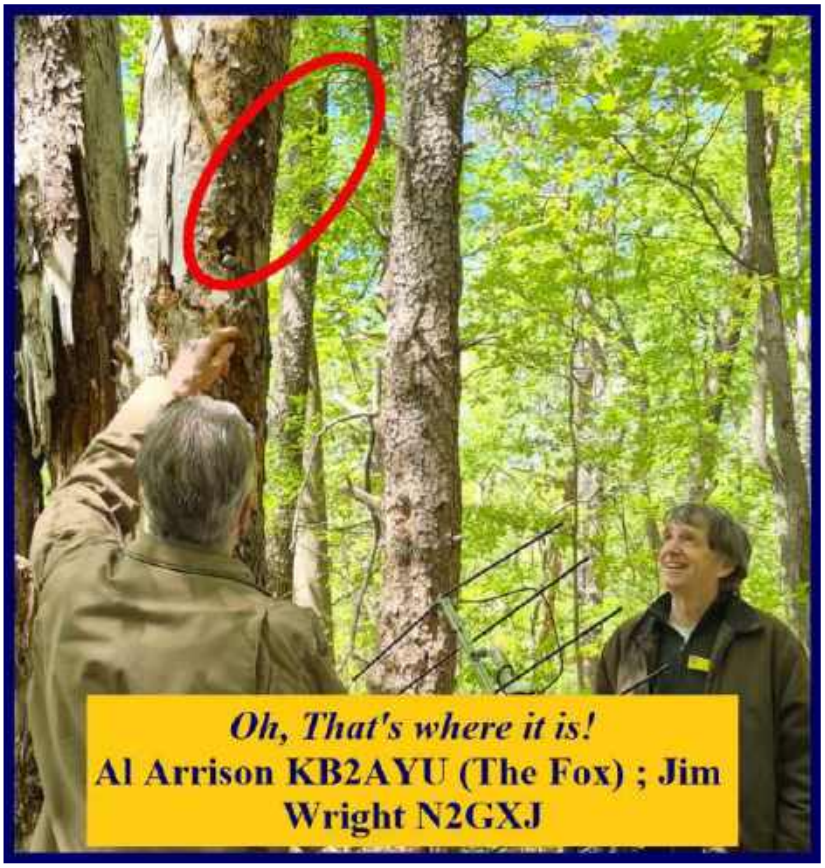
- **The "Fox", Al Arrison KB2AYU, who led us in today's hunt**
- **First time hunters, Troy Clancy AD2LY and Eileen, with their dog, Bertie**
- **Doug Dersch KD2VQA and his search and rescue dog, River**
- **Jim Wright N2GXJ and his better half, Belinda who was first to find the fox**

Being close at ground level isn't good enough - need to look up!

Great day, great fun!



Belinda; Doug Dersch KD2VQA; River; Jim Wright N2GXJ



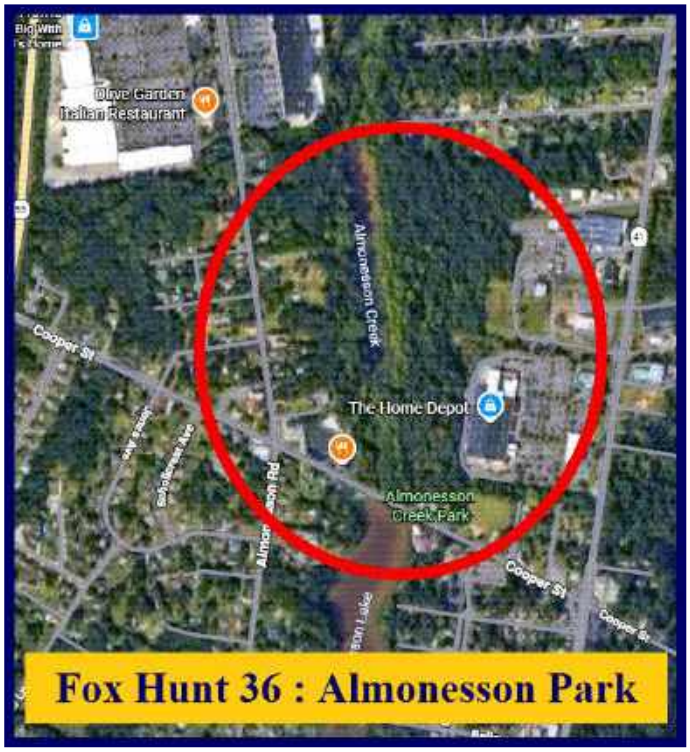
Oh, That's where it is!
Al Arrison KB2AYU (The Fox) ; Jim Wright N2GXJ

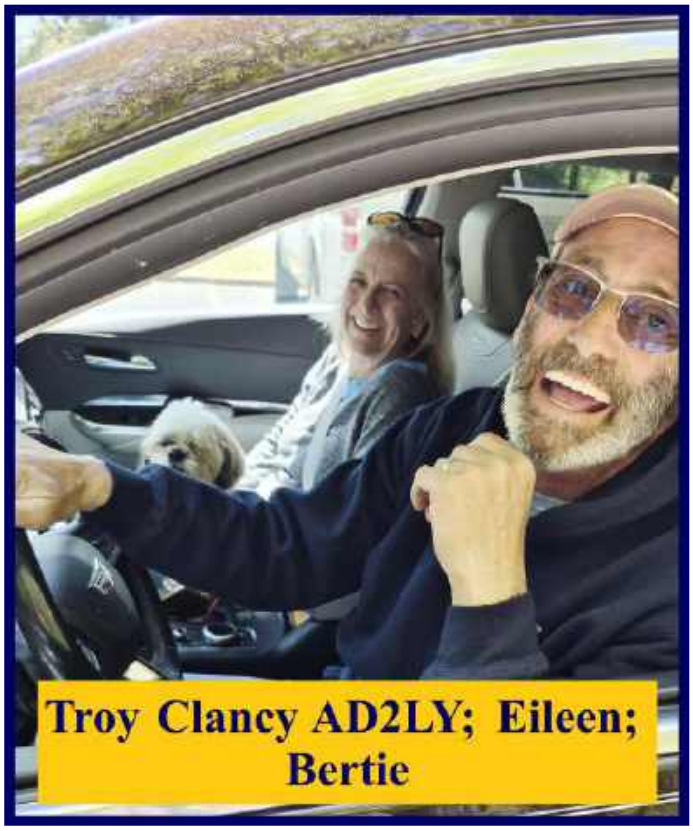
Operating Tip

Temporary Suffixes

If you're running a frequency, you might have US callers with the "temporary" suffixes /AG or /AE. These suffixes indicate that the licensee has recently upgraded to General or Amateur Extra class - Authorized General and Authorized Extra. In addition to the exchange, you might want to take a moment to congratulate them on their upgrade. You might also get /P for portable, /M for mobile, /AM for aeronautical mobile, and /MM for maritime mobile. You should log those call signs along with their suffixes.

Fox Hunt 36 Highlights





The Education Connection

By Chris Prioli AD2CS - chris@ad2cs.com
www.ad2cs.com

June 2026

Field Day 2026. Just its name evokes images of temporary antennas and solar- or generator-powered ad hoc stations set up in the great outdoors, right? According to the ARRL, who sponsors and promotes Field Day activities here in the USA, the intent is "To contact as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions". But let's face it, huh? It is all about the contacts, right? I mean, that its what everybody is working towards, and what everybody is keeping track of, so it must be the most important thing, right?

I demur. I believe that Field Day is just as much (if not even more) about the learning opportunities that present themselves through the very existence of Field Day. While I cannot speak for other band captains out there in the field, I can certainly speak for myself and my 20-meter phone team, and so I will.

We have a good number of new or low-time and mostly inexperienced operators assembled together into this team. Each year I solicit new members, as I also lose former members to their own teams or to other activities. We don't set any records as to the gross number of contacts made, but I would bet that we set records every year by the number of contacts being made by first-time operators.

We also have antennas being constructed and raised by completely inexperienced crews, who are learning how to do so for the first time in many cases. Everything that some of these folks do is for the first time. So… why do we work it this way?

Very simple answer : I want to get as many new operators as I can familiar with HF operations, with actually getting on the radio and talking to somebody, to get involved in station (and antenna) setup, and so forth. I want these folks to come away from Field Day with a sense of having accomplished something, and with the knowledge that they, each and every one, learned something new about ham radio.

Field Day is very much about educating the participants, in my mind. Sure - it is fun chasing those elusive QSO's and bringing your numbers up. But for me, the true satisfaction comes from seeing others do things that they did not think that they could - or would - ever do. To make things even better, it happens every year.

So…this year as you plan your field day plan and then execute that plan, try to factor in some teaching and training for the newer members of your team - it will go a long way in paying dividends back to the team later.

See you next month…

Operating Tip

Keep those hands on the keyboard

For big scores, the key is to run, run, run, making as high a rate as possible hour in and hour out. Getting the information into the logging program quickly is important, so practiced contesters know to keep their hands on the keyboard for all logging and radio control operations. They do not touch the radio, and mouse use is minimal. Most logging programs have a full range of control or function keypresses to navigate entry fields, adjust and clear the radio RIT, erase the entry window, stack calls, etc.

Tuesday AfterNoon Net @ 1200 Hours

147.180 MHz (+) (131.8) Repeater & EchoLink W2MMD-R

Here is the schedule for the upcoming weeks

Greg Ciraula K3GC : June 2, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : June 9, 2026
Rich Subers W2RHS : June 16, 2026
Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : June 23, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : June 30, 2026

Greg Ciraula K3GC : July 7, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : July 14, 2026
Rich Subers W2RHS : July 21, 2026
Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : July 28, 2026

Greg Ciraula K3GC : August 4, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : August 11, 2026
Rich Subers W2RHS : August 18, 2026
Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : August 25, 2026

If you would like to be a Net Control Station for this net, please contact Steve Farney W2SEF

Thursday Night Rag Chew Net @ 2000 Hours

147.180 MHz (+) (131.8) Repeater & EchoLink W2MMD-R

Here is the schedule for the upcoming weeks

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : June 4, 2026
Mary Delemarre W2TDS : June 11, 2026
Gary Mirkin WA3SVW : June 18, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : June 25, 2026

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : July 2, 2026
Mary Delemarre W2TDS : July 9, 2026
Gary Mirkin WA3SVW : July 16, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : July 23, 2026
Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : July 30, 2026

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : August 6, 2026
Mary Delemarre W2TDS : August 13, 2026
Gary Mirkin WA3SVW : August 20, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : August 27, 2026

If you would like to be a Net Control Station for this net, please contact Jeff Garth WB2ZBN

Need a ride to a Club meeting, event, or activity?

Just send a message to the Club's e-mail reflector asking if a member can pick you up

GCARC <*at*> MAILMAN <*dot*> QTH <*dot*> NET

All Club members have access to this FREE e-mail service

Gloucester County Skywarn Net

The Gloucester County Skywarn Net is held every Sunday @ 1930 Hours on the 147.180 MHz (+) (131.8) Repeater & EchoLink W2MMD-R

All Are Welcome To Participate
Net Control Station : Jeff Garth WB2ZBN

Gloucester County ARES Net

The Gloucester County ARES Net is held every Sunday @ 2000 Hours on the 147.180 MHz (+) (131.8) Repeater & EchoLink W2MMD-R

All are welcome to participate

Net Control Stations :
Al Arrison KB2AYU; Steve Farney W2SEF; Jeff Garth WB2ZBN; Bob Keogh KD2NEC; Angela Metzger KE2DRJ; Craig Metzger KE2GNU; Gary Mirkin WA3SVW

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : June 7, 2026
Bob Keogh KD2NEC : June 14, 2026
Angela Metzger KE2DRJ : June 21, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : June 28, 2026

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN : July 5, 2026
Gary Mirkin WA3SVW : July 12, 2026
Al Arrison KB2AYU : July 19, 2026
Craig Metzger KE2GNU : July 26, 2026

Bob Keogh KD2NEC : August 2, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : August 9, 2026
Angela Metzger KE2DRJ : August 16, 2026
Steve Farney W2SEF : August 23, 2026
Craig Metzger KE2GNU : August 30, 2026

Anyone who is interested in joining the Gloucester County ARES Team, is invited to contact Steve Farney W2SEF at sef001@comcast.net

Monday & Thursday Night 40 Meter Net @ 1930 Hours
7.165 MHz (+ /- 10 kHz)
NCS : Jim Clark KA2OSV

ARRL Learning Center
https://learn.arrl.org

Discover how to make Amateur Radio your own.

Online courses from the ARRL Learning Center provide ARRL members with additional instruction and training for getting on the air, emergency communications, and electronics and technology

At The Repair Bench…

A monthly column describing a recent repair bench event.

By Chris Prioli AD2CS - chris@ad2cs.com - www.ad2cs.com

TYT MD-9600 Mobile Transceiver - June 2026

Every now and then, I will come across a repair that must be made, but by all rights, ***should never have been necessary!*** That is the case with this month's case-history, which revolves around a **TYT MD-9600 Mobile Transceiver (Figure 1)**.

This model is a compact but capable 50-watt mobile type that offers VHF/UHF dual-band analog modes as well as being DMR capable. This one came to me from a relatively new ham who had been given the radio in what was said to be like-new condition. That, however, did not last very long.

In order to use the radio correctly, a power supply was needed, and I was able to provide him with a suitable power supply after much discussion as to exactly what was needed in terms of amperage. A lengthy conversation had taken place in which I tried to determine the current needs of this model. First, we checked the user manual, which provided no information regarding current demands of the transmitter. The owner then tried a web search, which low-balled the current to an unrealistic level. Ultimately, I decided on a minimum current target based solely on the fuse that was installed in the radio power cord, which was a mini-ATC 15A (BLUE) fuse. In any event, I decided that I had a power supply in my repair queue that would fit the bill for him and made plans to get it to him as soon as the repairs that it needed were finished.

Fast-forward to the day that the owner gets the repaired power supply unit (PSU). He connected the radio to the PSU, but he got no result when attempting to power on the radio. He ultimately called me and asked me what was wrong. It was during that conversation that I finally got the shocking news (pun intended) that led me to the repair that is the subject of this article.

It turns out that while he was waiting for the repaired PSU to get into his hands, he decided to go ahead and operate the radio… by connecting its power cord directly into a 120VAC receptacle! Needless to say, that was not a resounding success. The radio, obviously, suffered some damage and would need repairs before it would, if ever, get on the air.

OK - so what damage was done to the radio? In this situation, the owner was extremely fortunate. The damage was limited to a charred 15-ampere mini-ATC fuse and a shorted P6KE24A TVS diode, as well as several electrolytic capacitors which had been supplied with voltages well in excess of their maximums. These included a total of four (4) 470µF/25V types and one 47µF/25V type. The final damaged component was a 2SJ377 MOSFET in the power conditioning circuit. A schematic excerpt detailing the pertinent portion is shown in **Figure 2**.

The P6KE24A is a unidirectional transient voltage suppressor (TVS) that is installed across the incoming **DC supply line (circled in red in Figure 2)**. This device is rated at 600W, with a reverse standoff voltage (VR) of 20.50V and a breakdown voltage (VBR) of 22.80V (minimum) to 25.80V (maximum). The clamping voltage (VC) is 33.2V at a maximum peak pulse current (IPP) of 18.4A. So… what do all of these values mean, and just what does a TVS do… and how does it do it?

At The Repair Bench - Continued on page 21

At The Repair Bench - Continued from page 20

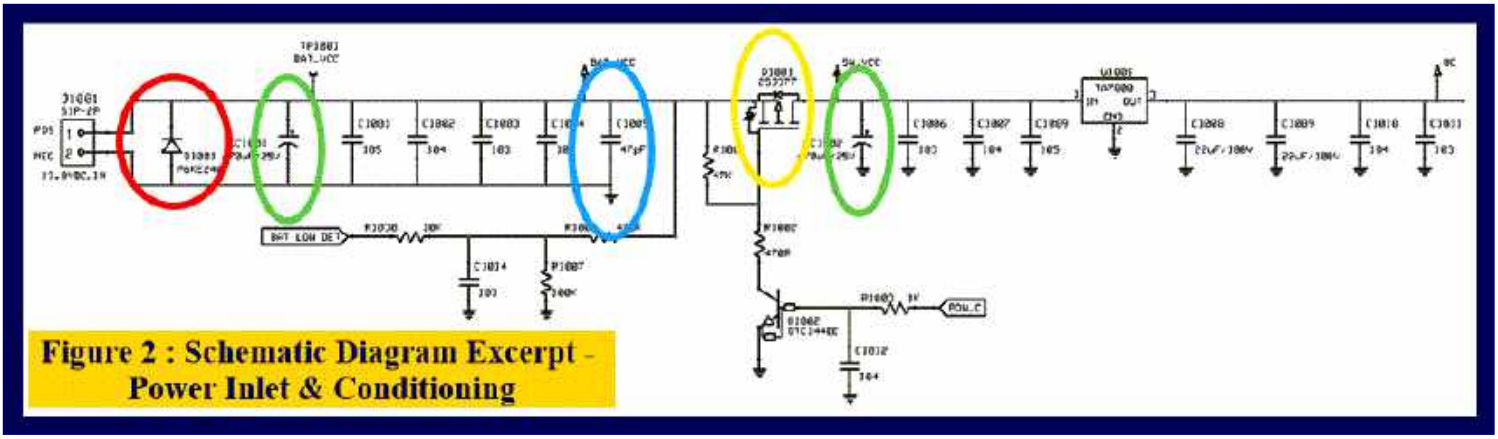


Figure 2 : Schematic Diagram Excerpt - Power Inlet & Conditioning

TVS diodes are specifically engineered to absorb and dissipate high-energy transient pulses extremely quickly. These diodes function similarly to a pressure relief valve for electricity, operating in three distinct states based on the circuit's voltage :

- **Normal Operation (Standoff) :** Under normal conditions, the voltage remains below the diode's Reverse Standoff Voltage (VR). The diode has high impedance and acts as an open circuit, drawing only a tiny amount of leakage current (nanoamps) so it doesn't interfere with the main circuit.
- **Transient Event (Breakdown) :** When a sudden voltage spike exceeds the Breakdown Voltage (VBR), the diode enters ***"avalanche breakdown"*** within nanoseconds or picoseconds. It rapidly changes from high to low impedance, creating a path to shunt the excess current to ground.
- **Clamping :** During the surge, the diode ***"clamps"*** the voltage across it to a specific Clamping Voltage (VC). This is the maximum voltage the protected downstream components will see, which must be lower than their damage threshold.
- **Automatic Reset :** Once the spike passes and the voltage returns to normal levels, the TVS diode automatically resets to its high-impedance state.

As might be inferred from the preceding explanation, TVS diodes are intended to deal with rapid, short-duration spikes... but ***not*** with a prolonged influx of high-voltage alternating current. Based on the specification values listed earlier for the P6KE24A device, any way that you look at it, 120VAC input with zero current-limiting is a recipe for failure of the TVS, which in fact it did. It failed in a short-circuit condition. In all likelihood, once the TVS failed to a short-circuit condition, the AC arc at the fuse would probably have been extinguished by the circuit breaker for the particular circuit in use tripping out and opening the circuit, effectively shutting off the incoming current.

The TVS is normally installed with its cathode to the positive side of the power input circuit. It is placed directly across the incoming 13.8VDC terminals. A P6KE24A TVS diode subjected to 120VAC will likely fail to a short circuit within microseconds to a few milliseconds, depending on the source impedance of the power line. The P6KE24A is designed for low-voltage DC protection (20.5V working voltage) and cannot survive the sustained energy of a 120VAC line.

The expected failure timeline would most likely look something like this :

- **Clamping (nanoseconds or picoseconds) :** The diode will engage almost instantly (typically in less than 1.0ps) once the voltage exceeds its breakdown of ~22.8V.
- **Overheating (microseconds) :** At the peak of a 120VAC cycle (~170V), the diode will attempt to clamp the voltage to roughly 33.2V. This creates a massive voltage drop across the diode while shunting extremely high current.
- **Destruction (milliseconds) :** Because the diode is only rated for a 600W peak pulse (1ms duration), the continuous power from the AC line will rapidly exceed its thermal limits. In a typical "hard" connection to a wall outlet, the silicon junction will melt and fail in a shorted condition almost immediately during the first half-cycle of the AC wave.

At The Repair Bench - Continued on page 22

At The Repair Bench - Continued from page 21

A summary of the effects of applying 120VAC to this particular TVS is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Effects of 120VAC on P6KE24A TVS

Device Parameter	P6KE24A Rating	120VAC Impact
Reverse Standoff (V_R)	20.5V	Constantly exceeded (~170V peak)
Breakdown (V_{BR})	22.8V - 25.2V	Diode conducts nearly the entire cycle
Clamping Voltage (V_C)	33.2V	Diode tries to "fight" the 170V peak
Steady State Power	5.0W	Power dissipation will be in the hundreds or thousands of watts.

So… all of this brings up another question. Why does the TVS fail to a short circuit rather than simply going open? The typical failure mode for TVS diodes like the P6KE series is a short circuit. When the semiconductor material is subjected to over-specified voltage or current, the silicon junction melts and forms a conductive path, which becomes the shorting path for the current.

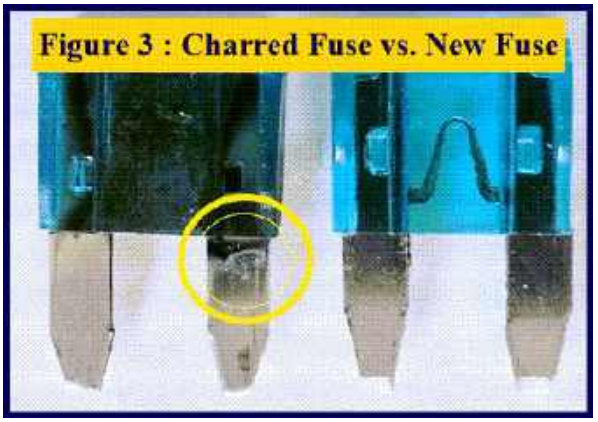
It should be noted that the plastic DO-15 case of the P6KE24A TVS diode will sometimes explode under such conditions, as the mains current surge causes such rapid heating that the plastic case fails catastrophically. However, the silicon path usually shorts first.

It is during the extremely short period of time while the TVS diode was in its clamping mode of operation that the damage occurred downstream of the TVS diode's location. Specifically, five aluminum electrolytic capacitors failed - four rated **470µF at 25V (circled in green in Figure 2)** and one rated **47µF at 25V (circled in blue in Figure 2)**. Note that only two of the failed 470µF capacitors appear in this schematic excerpt - the remainder are located in another circuit branch that tees off this power segment. A single 2SJ377 P-Channel enhancement mode **MOSFET (circled in yellow in Figure 2)** was also damaged. This device failed in a modality that resulted in a short-circuit from drain to source. The failure of the electrolytic capacitors was because the clamping voltage of 33.2V exceeded the working voltage rating of 25V for these capacitors.

Let's talk about the charred fuse for a minute. It must be understood that the ATC/ATO family of automotive fuses, while quite ubiquitous today, are absolutely ***not*** rated for use in alternating current circuits at all - and especially not so at mains voltage levels. The datasheet AC rating is ***0VAC*** for the entire family of ATC/ATO and mini-ATC/mini-ATO fuses. The reason is because these fuses are not designed to extinguish the arc that occurs at fuse opening with the energy levels present in AC mains voltage circuits. It is this arc that caused the extensive charring of the fuse, the welding of the fuse to its connector inside the fuse holder, and also the melting that was evident in the fuse holder for this fuse. During the period when the arc is active, current is still moving into the radio, and is fully capable of doing damage to the radio.

The illustration at **Figure 3** shows the spent, charred fuse from this radio next to a new 15-ampere mini-ATO fuse for comparison purposes. When I asked the owner to remove the fuse so that we could get an idea of its condition (before I knew about the 120VAC debacle), he said that he could not get it to come out of the fuse holder. As a matter of fact, he could get one side to come up, but not the other. A close look at the spent fuse tells the story. Note the ***yellow circle*** in the **Figure 3** photo. It surrounds the spot where the fuse blade was actually welded to the connector in the fuse holder. What does that say about current levels in that fuse holder?

Figure 3 : Charred Fuse vs. New Fuse



At The Repair Bench - Continued on page 23

At The Repair Bench - Continued from page 22

Moving on to the capacitors that were damaged in this event, there were a total of five capacitors in need of replacement. One of these was a 47µF/25V radial aluminum electrolytic capacitor, while the remainder were all 470µF/25V types. I replaced all of them with high-quality low-ESR +105°C devices, all of which were in stock here. The temperature rating is important in a mobile radio, as automobile interior temperatures can get quite high during the summer. That ambient heat is transferred into the componentry of the radio, which, when energized, only gets hotter. Did you ever notice how much more the mobile radio fan operates during summer months than in winter time?

The MOSFET was replaced with one of the same part number, which I happened to have on hand. It is a surface mount device that mounts flat on the PCB via its drain tab and its gate and source leads, which have a modified gull-wing form. Removal of the failed MOSFET was a simple matter of applying a focused hot air stream to ***"float"*** the device, where it could be lifted out with tweezers. After a bit of clean-up of the board, the new transistor was placed and soldered in.

The failed capacitors are all through-hole devices, easily removed with the use of my HAKKO FR-301 vacuum desoldering tool. Replacement capacitors were positioned in accordance with their polarities, and then were soldered into place. All very straight-forward. That brought me to the TVS diode.

As was stated earlier, this diode is soldered directly across the incoming 13.8VDC source leads. In this installation, the two power leads pass through the PCB from the upper surface, being soldered on the lower surface. The lower surface is also where the 2SJ377 MOSFET is installed. The P6KE24A TVS diode is soldered directly to the inlet wire solder joints on the PCB. Thus, the TVS protection is the very first thing that this incoming power encounters.

The MD-9600 has a bi-level power output scheme, which varies slightly between the VHF and the UHF bands. On VHF, the power output maximums are 25W and 50W, while on UHF, these values are 25W and 45W. In live testing of the radio post-repair, we saw 47.5 watts output on the VHF band and just about 40 watts on the UHF band. While testing on VHF, tuned to the GCARC VHF repeater at 147.180 MHz and dumping the output into a resistive but non-inductive dummy load, the test signal was nonetheless picked up by the repeater and passed along, garnering responses from Club members on the air.

The radio passed all of its post-repair testing, including deviation and frequency stability. As such, it was returned to its owner, who was quite grateful that the radio had been salvaged from its unfortunate damaged state.

Sometimes, even what seems like a hopelessly damaged unit can be restored to health fairly easily. Approach the problem in a logical manner, first evaluating, then testing and diagnosing, and finally repairing the problem. Remember too that each and every radio has its own unique power needs, and those needs should be noted and then adhered to when placing the radio into operational service.

See you next month!

Wine & BBQ
June 13 - 14, 2026
Washington Lake Park
Sewell, NJ

More information can be found at :
https://newjerseywineevents.com/events/wine-bbq

New QRZ Award: USA250 (The 250th Anniversary of the United States of America)

In 2026, the United States of America will commemorate a historic milestone — the **250th anniversary of its founding.** To honor this once-in-a-lifetime event, QRZ is proud to introduce a special commemorative operating award: **USA 250**.

The **USA 250 Award** is available to amateur radio operators **worldwide** and is granted upon the successful confirmation of **250 two-way contacts with US-based amateur radio stations** made during the 2026 calendar year.

Award Requirements

To earn the USA 250 Award, operators must:

- Make **250 confirmed QSOs** with **US-based amateur radio stations** (operating from DXCC entities 291, 6, 110, 9, 103, 202 or 285)
- Contacts may be made on **any band** and **any mode,** Transmission may not make use of a relay, repeater or internet linking.
- Licensed operators in **any country** are eligible
- QSOs must take place **during the 2026 calendar year only**
- The operating window opens at **00:00 UTC on January 1, 2026**
- All contacts must be **confirmed on QRZ Logbook** (imported LoTW confirmations accepted)
- The official rules can be found here **https://www.qrz.com/page/qrz-operating-awards**

Operating Period

January 1, 2026 00:00:00 – December 31, 2026 23:59:59 (UTC)

Volunteer Monitor Program Report - February 2026

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the February 2026 activity report of the VM Program.

- An operator in California was issued an Advisory Notice concerning a beacon on a 60-meter frequency not authorized to US operators.
- Technician operators in Michigan and Oregon were issued Advisory Notices for 40-meter FT8 operation, a band on which Technicians have only CW operation privileges.
- Technician operators in Illinois and Florida were issued Advisory Notices for 20-meter FT8 operation, a band on which Technicians have no privileges.
- An Advisory Notice was issued to a resident in Bay Point, California, concerning unlicensed 2-meter transmissions from the property.
- An operator in Connecticut was issued a commendation for outstanding operation of the Hartford-Tolland County SKYWARN Net on the PVRA repeater during a snowstorm. The net was operated continuously for 24 hours and relayed information on ground conditions to the National Weather Service.
- An operator in California was issued a commendation for exceptional courtesy and skill in assisting a POTA operator to change frequencies so that a net could begin operation on 20 meters.
- Results of the new automated FT4/FT8 monitoring system are being reviewed. The program appears to be effective in continuously monitoring the frequencies to ensure that operators have the proper license class for the band they are using.
- There were three VM Program presentations to amateur radio clubs in Missouri and Maryland.
- Further evidence was provided to the FCC in three interference cases referred in January 2026.

The totals for January 2026 monitoring were 1,437 hours on HF frequencies, and 1,738 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 3,175 hours.

Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH

NTS Resources

The National Traffic System® (NTS) is a network of Amateur Radio operators who move information during disasters and other emergencies. General messages offering well wishes also move through the NTS to help test the system and to help Amateur Radio operators build traffic handling skills. While the NTS is primarily set up to serve the United States and Canada, it is possible to move traffic internationally through the NTS through various local, regional, area, and international network connections.

- **NTS 2.0 : https://nts2.arrl.org**
- **NTS Manual : https://www.arrl.org/nts-manual**
- **NTS Methods and Practices Guidelines Table of Contents : https://www.arrl.org/table-of-contents-nts-methods-and-practices-guidelines**
- **Handling Instructions : https://nts2.arrl.org/hx-handling-instructions**
- **Numbered Texts : https://nts2.arrl.org/numbered-texts**
- **Form Encoding Rules for Form : https://nts2.arrl.org/form-encoding-rules-for-forms**

A *Club* that goes *above* and *beyond* for their communities and for Amateur Radio, is what defines a *Special Service Club (SSC).*

They are the leaders in their Amateur Radio communities who provide active training classes, publicity programs, and actively pursue technical projects and operating activities.

GCARC has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since February 4, 1960 and an SSC since April 2010.

GCARC VE Team : 2026 License Exam Monthly Summary

	Technician Class		General Class		Amateur Extra Class	
	Monthly	YTD	Monthly	YTD	Monthly	YTD
January	1	1	0	0	0	0
February	0	1	0	0	0	0
March	1	2	0	0	1	1
April	2	4	0	0	0	1
May	1	5	1	1	1	2
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						

Club Member DMR IDs

Club Member	DMR ID
W2MMD Clubhouse	**3198604**
Michael Beach KF2EM (KE2HRH)	3222203
Jim Blose KD2TAT	3211628
Cole Bonner KE2GYA	3221097
Joshua Boylan KE2FSC	3216140
Alex Calabrese WA2ADS	3100583
Chuck Capasso WB2PGE	3169781
Todd Cecilio KA2YNT	3169458
Anthony Cerami N2OAC	3202759
Mark Clark N3QMJ	3102110
Norm Coltri K2NRC	3183851
Holden Correia-Fisher KD2JPV	3104911
Mike Covaleski N2MMC	3134855
Walter Coward WX2E	3166863
Doug Dersch KD2VQA	3193630
Daniel Devlin KC2GYU	3210633
Carmen DiCamillo KA3WYV	3221262
Thomas Distelcamp Sr KC2GYC	3110869
Glenn Dougherty N2YIO	3161836
Adam Duncan W3DUN	3202691
Herb Dyer KT2Y	3134907
Harry Elwell AD5TT	3128498
Misael Fernandez Jr KE2EBL	3214756
Joseph Fisher KC2TN	3134720
James Foster W3JNF	3142117
Karl Frank W2KBF	3146716
Joseph Gadoury N2JJG (KE2AKT)	3196520
Glen Guenther KE2BUO	3202079
Melissa Guenther KE2BWZ	3202496
Gary Hewitt N2WHV	3134654
Paul Kaplan N2FOB	3134796
Chuck Lanard KD2EIB	3134298
Darren Malone KD2ALQ	3215227
Dean Marzocca N2TNN	3206232
Bill McCourt WF1L	3152173

Club Member	DMR ID
Scott McNutt N3ADP	3189434
Gary Mirkin WA3SVW	3165494
Paul Molinari N2MVK	3221792
Earl Moore KC2NCH	3210340
John Murrow KD2NHK	1134122
John Newman WB4YLM	3213273
Phil Nunzio WA3RGY	3134336
John O'Connell K2QA	3110610
Robert Pantazes W2ARP	3157208
Sheldon Parker K2MEN	3214037
Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF	3163415
Michael Pecorini K2MRP	3132996
Michael Pentimall KC3VTF	3203601
John Price III KD2QYC	3123583
Chris Prioli AD2CS	3195449
Nicholas Reigel KE2DCD	3128983
Michael Resnick N2WOQ	3215856
William Robinson KD2ANM	3134257
Frank Romeo N3PUU	3134935
Terry Rossi N2LQH	3183681
Len Rust III W2LJR	3186225
Len Rust IV K2LJR	3196243
Dave Sheppard W2PAX	3112666
Cory Sickles WA3UVV	1142052
James Simeone KC2AOF	3134848
Stan Slachetka WA2JRZ	3213904
Court Smith KD2SPJ	3186243
Jackson Snyder AI2D	3164371
Rich Subers W2RHS	3204316
David Swartout KC3TGB	3198155
Anthony Vece W2AJV	3214797
Matt Wilson K2MFW	3134607
Bill Wood KD2OSJ	3197459
Jim Wright N2GXJ	3215168
John Zaruba Jr K2ZA	3134331
New Entries As Of 05/01/2026	

DMR Configuration Sequence

1. Obtain and Configure DMR ID :
   - https://www.radioid.net
2. Download Contact List :
   - http://www.dmrcontacts.com
3. Identify Repeater or Hotspot :
   - https://www.repeaterbook.com
4. Define Talk Groups
   - Numerical ID
   - Text Name

https://brandmeister.network/?page=talkgroups

5. Create Channel
   - Select Number
   - Assign Name
   - Select DMR ID
   - Assign Frequency
     - Transmit
     - Receive
     - Bandwidth
   - Power
   - DMR Mode (Simplex/Repeater)
   - TX Permit (Channel Free)
   - Assign Talk Group
   - Assign Color Code
     - Agreed Upon with Other Users
   - Assign Time Slot
   - Agreed Upon with Other Users
6. Create Zone
7. Add Channels to Zones
8. Configure Features
9. Upload Code Plug
10. Upload Contact List

If you recently changed your callsign, contact idteam@dmr-marc.net to have your DMR ID transferred to your new callsign.

For more information, DMR links, and W2LJR's DMR presentations, go to : https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/dmr.html

8th Annual ARRL SNJ Section Convention

Presented By The

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

W2MMD

Celebrating Our 67th Year

HamFest.W2MMD.org

Open To The Public At 8:00 AM : Rain or Shine

48th Annual HamFest : Sunday, October 11, 2026

How Hot Tuna, a YouTube Video, and a Backyard Cook from South Jersey Ended Up at the World's Greatest Contest Station

By Terry Rossi N2LQH

What K3LR taught me about radio, brotherhood, and why the shrimp scampi matters just as much as the pile-ups.

Some of you were there at the April 1, 2026 General Membership Meeting when Tim Duffy K3LR, presented his now-legendary 168-slide deep dive into one of the world's great contest stations - all of it delivered in thirty minutes, after a Zoom setup problem that Tim handled with more grace than most of us would have managed.

What came through even in the compressed version was unmistakable : this is a serious operation run by a serious person who loves this hobby without reservation.

I don't entirely know how I ended up at K3LR for the 2026 ARRL DX Phone Contest, and I'm not sure I've fully earned the right to tell this story. But I'm going to tell it anyway, because the lesson at the end of it isn't really about me - it's about what happens when you show up, give everything you have, and don't ask for anything in return.

It's 2 AM on a Saturday somewhere in western Pennsylvania. Eleven of the fourteen best contest operators on Earth are locked in - each one seated at their own Icom IC-7851, each one knowing exactly what they need to do and doing it with quiet, practiced precision. Outside, fourteen towers rise over a sixteen-acre compound, their antennas aimed at every corner of the globe. The contest started at 7 PM Friday and won't end until 8 PM Sunday, and not a single one of these men is thinking about anything other than the next contact and coming out on top. What was a new HF operator and a backyard cook from South Jersey doing in the middle of all this? Funny you should ask.

Let me back up about a year.

I was first licensed as a Technician Plus back in the early nineties, but life and the sun cycle had other plans and the hobby quietly faded away. Then in 2025, something pulled me back. I sold my business, my kids were grown and I once again had time to explore amateur radio - and boy had it changed. Suddenly my vocation, computers and IT, could be part of my avocation. I upgraded to General, rediscovered HF, fell headfirst into CAT control and digital modes, and started poking at contesting. I was a newcomer with enthusiasm, a decent antenna, and absolutely no idea how deep the rabbit hole went.

That changed when I started researching the ARRL Worldwide DX SSB contest - one of the first real contests I'd ever participated in. Down the YouTube rabbit hole I went, and eventually I landed on a 168-slide club presentation given by one Tim Duffy, callsign K3LR, CEO of DX Engineering and owner of one of the most celebrated contest stations in the world. I watched the whole thing. The towers. The shack. The compound. The operators. The barn that sleeps eight. Eleven radios running multi-multi. I was blown away - and I was just watching it from my couch in South Jersey.

Then I hit a slide that stopped me cold.

There, in the middle of a slide about what keeps the K3LR team fueled through a 48-hour contest weekend, was a face I hadn't seen in four decades. Someone Tim introduced as "Chef Sal, WM2H." But I knew him as something else entirely - the older brother of my childhood friend Neff. Sal Anastasio. Their dad was a ham. And Sal, following in his father's footsteps, had become one too - though I had absolutely no idea.

K3LR World's Greatest Contest Station - Continued on page 29

K3LR World's Greatest Contest Station - Continued from page 28

Back in the day, before any of us had our driver's licenses, it was Sal who drove a group of us to Catholic high school every morning. He had an 8-track deck in a Chevy Chevelle and an iron-clad devotion to Hot Tuna and Jefferson Airplane. Eight-tracks, lap belts, and the faint smell of leaded gasoline. If you know, you know. It was not exactly on my playlist at the time. But you don't argue with the guy who's driving.

All those years later, there's Sal - on my laptop screen - credited as the man who feeds the greatest contest team in the world. We'd been friends for over 45 years, though time and distance had gotten in the way. And I had no idea he was a ham.

"You never know who you're going to see in a YouTube video."

I sent him exactly that line, along with a screenshot of slide 154. Over the next couple of emails we had a good laugh, shared a little catch-up, and I didn't think much more of it. The world is small, the coincidence was delightful, and that, I assumed, was that.

A few weeks later, I received what appeared to be a routine customer satisfaction email from DX Engineering. The sender was the CEO - ***Tim Duffy*** himself.

Now, most people write back a polite two-line reply. I wrote Tim a letter. I told him about my experience with DX Engineering (ten out of ten, genuinely). I told him about getting back into the hobby, about upgrading to General, about my first foray into contesting. And then I told him the whole story - the YouTube video, the 168 slides, the Hot Tuna 8-track, the Catholic high school carpool, and the moment I saw Sal's face on a presentation about contest food. I closed it the only way that felt right : ***73, Terry Rossi N2LQH***.

I had no agenda. It was just a good story, and Tim seemed like the kind of person who'd appreciate it.

What I didn't know was that Tim loved the email so much he shared it with the entire DX Engineering staff, the broader K3LR contest team, and Sal himself. Sal, to his eternal credit, wrote back and told Tim I was a great chef. Now, Sal has known me for over 45 years.

He knows exactly what I am and what I am not. But Sal is also a man who may be thinking about his retirement options - and a co-chef who can handle a pork Wellington, or equally important, a Pork Roll, is a valuable thing. For the foreign operators and any readers who didn't grow up in South Jersey, Pork Roll is its own food group around here. I choose to believe Sal's endorsement came from a place of loyalty. I cannot prove it came from a place of honesty.

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Either way, it worked. Tim extended the invitation and I was in - part of the team for the 2026 ARRL DX Phone Contest.

Nothing prepares you for K3LR in person. The compound stretches across sixteen acres. Fourteen towers dot the property in every direction, some of them rising to genuinely staggering heights - including a 275-foot 40-meter tower that dominates the skyline. Standing beneath those towers is something no photo can prepare you for. Antennas from top to bottom, each one rotated in a different direction, layer upon layer of aluminum disappearing into the sky. You find yourself just staring up, turning in a slow circle, trying to take it all in. There is a lot of aluminum at K3LR.

The shack is purpose-built, organized with deliberate precision that tells you immediately this is not a casual operation. Eleven Icom IC-7851 transceivers - each one worth over ten thousand dollars - sit at eleven operating positions. And if you're thinking that sounds expensive, Tim keeps two more as spares. Because that's the way Tim rolls.

But the radios might actually be among the more modest investments at the station. State-of-the-art single-band amplifiers home-brewed by Tim, stacked antennas as far and as high as you can see, CW skimmers, sophisticated listening devices, and elaborate antenna switching systems - each of them separately rotatable - round out each position. Threading it all together is an interlock system that physically prevents two operators on the same band from ever keying up simultaneously - a hard requirement under contest rules, and an engineering challenge unto itself.

And then there's the noise policy. Or more accurately - the absolute, non-negotiable, zero-tolerance war on RF noise that Tim wages across every square foot of the property.

You will not find a wall wart at K3LR. Not one. No phone chargers, no off-the-shelf power adapters, no switching supplies straight out of the box. Anywhere you would normally find a plug-in transformer, you will instead find a 12-volt supply with a precision step-down to the correct voltage, the whole thing wrapped with a toroid coil to kill any noise before it can breathe. Every appliance on the property is evaluated for electronic noise before it earns a place at K3LR - and that standard applies not just to the shack and the main house and the DX barn, but to the two guest houses Tim owns along the street to accommodate the full contest team.

And the light bulbs? Every single one on the property is incandescent. No LEDs anywhere - not in the kitchen, not in the bedrooms, not in the guest houses down the road, and not even in the four aviation beacon lights mounted on top of that 275-foot tower. Think about what it takes to track down incandescent beacon bulbs for an FAA-required aircraft warning light in 2026. Tim tracked them down. Because at K3LR, there are no compromises, and there are no exceptions.

> ***Every light bulb on the property is incandescent. No LEDs - not even on the beacon lights atop the 275 -foot tower.***

Each of the main HF bands - 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 meters - is worked by a two-person team. One operator holds the frequency for the full duration of the contest, calling CQ and working every station that answers. The other searches the band for multipliers, hunting new entities and rare contacts to add to the score. They work in constant coordination, helping each other, wasting nothing, logging everything. One hundred sixty meters has a sole operator - a band that demands its own patience and its own particular skill set. When the final buzzer sounded at the close of the 2026 ARRL Worldwide DX SSB contest on Sunday evening, K3LR had logged over 6,600 contacts and amassed a score of 11,829,195 points. They finished first in the Multi-Multi category. First. In the world.

Tim had come into the contest with a station goal - to break the ARRL DX Phone contest USA Multi Multi point record. The station was ready. The team was ready. But the ionosphere, as any ham knows, answers to nobody. Propagation simply didn't cooperate the way the score would have required.

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K3LR World's Greatest Contest Station - Continued from page 30

In any other context, 11,829,195 points and a worldwide first-place finish would be an unqualified triumph. At K3LR, it also means Tim is already thinking about next year and how to do better.

And the operators themselves. Most of them have been making the trip to this compound for somewhere between twenty and forty years. These are world-renowned contesters - known by their callsigns the way musicians are known by their stage names. They travel here on their own dime, from across the country and across the globe, because this is simply where they want to be at the beginning of March. Watching them work is a master class in DX operating that no licensing exam could ever prepare you for. And did I mention that many of these same operators make the trip to K3LR multiple times a year - for both the CW and SSB contests?

But here's the thing nobody tells you about elite contesting : between the pile-ups, the people come alive.

K3LR runs on traditions as much as it runs on kilowatts. Before the contest begins, the team gathers for a group dinner - a proper sit-down, a chance to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones before the clock starts ticking. Tim says a few words. There's a warmth to it that you don't expect from a place so focused on winning.

The traditions don't stop at the dinner table. Tim is a man who sweats the details of hospitality with the same energy he brings to RF engineering. Every member of the team receives a custom K3LR mug - their name and callsign printed right on it. You get two : one to take home, one that stays at K3LR, waiting on the shelf for your next visit. It's a small thing. It's also Tim's quiet way of saying : ***you belong here, and we expect to see you again***.

And the t-shirts. Tim is a devoted collector and commissioner of custom contest apparel, and every year brings a fresh selection for the team to choose from. The shirts the team wore for the 2026 contest - a tribute to a record-breaking 406 contacts in 60 minutes on 10 meters, achieved the year prior - were a gift from Tim to the team. A wearable piece of K3LR history. Just another way he makes sure everyone who comes through that shack knows their effort is seen and remembered.

During the contest itself, there are no long breaks and no group meals - operators eat at their stations or grab food between shifts, fueled and ready to go back in. The shack doesn't stop. But the table near the kitchen becomes its own kind of gathering place, somewhere voices rise above the noise, stories get told, and decades of shared contest history gets passed around like a side dish.

Which is where Chef Sal and I came in.

Breakfasts were made to order every morning by myself and Sandy DL1QQ from Germany. Breakfast was served up as the operators headed to their positions. John N2NC made sure nobody went without - he brought enough Pork Roll for everyone's breakfast every single day. One morning I found myself hiding the last few slices for a late riser. Priorities.

Before the contest started, the team gathered around the kitchen table and assembled a full run of cold-cut sandwiches together - sealed in zip-lock bags and labeled with a black Sharpie. Most were marked in plain English. The Italian hoagies, however, were labeled in Morse code. Because of course they were.

For sixteen people, Thursday through Sunday, Sal and I ran the kitchen and dinner was our main jam. King crab. Shrimp scampi. Spinach sautéed in olive oil and garlic. Pork Wellington with green beans. Smoked pork tenderloins with grilled asparagus and house-made applesauce. And at the end of the contest - because great effort deserves great reward - smoked filet mignon and big juicy sirloins with mashed potatoes, steakhouse-sautéed mushrooms, and creamed spinach with Gruyère.

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Bonnie, who made the trip with her husband Andy N2NT, is no stranger to contesting - she is, as any ham spouse knows, a contest widow of the first order. This was her first time at K3LR, and she wasted no time making herself indispensable. She became the heart of the kitchen operation - the house mom who kept everything running while Chef Sal and I played executive chef, cleaning up behind the two of us without complaint and keeping the whole operation sane from the first meal to the last. We would not have managed without her.

When the contest ended Sunday evening, the shack exhaled. The operators who had been running on adrenaline and good food for 48 hours finally let themselves stop. Tim gathered the team - the operators, the volunteers, the people who had driven or flown in from across the world entirely on their own time and their own dollar - and he thanked them. Not a quick thank-you. A real one. The kind you feel. The kind that reminds you why people keep coming back year after year, decade after decade.

Then there was one more moment from the visit I won't soon forget. Tim brought out a cake for Dr. José "Otis" Vicens, NP4G - affectionately known to the ham community simply as Otis. He had no idea what was coming. We told him - and told the whole room - that he had been selected as the 2026 Dayton Hamvention Ham of the Year. This was a full day before the announcement was made publicly. The look on his face was worth the trip to the Pennsylvania/Ohio border all by itself. In a room full of world-class operators, Otis is held in especially high regard - and watching the team celebrate one of their own that way said everything about the character of this group and the tight bonds they share.

And then came the Maker's Mark.

A bottle of bourbon was passed around the room, and one by one, every member of the team uncapped a marker and signed their callsign on the label. That bottle gets saved - along with countless others - proudly displayed high on a shelf in the DX Barn, a room only the chosen few ever set foot in. Each bottle is a record of a world-class finish by a world-class station, a permanent history of who was there, who worked the bands, who cooked the food, and who raised a glass together when it was over. It is the quiet kind of trophy case that only means something if you were there to earn your place on it.

Take a look at the team photo. Every one of those callsigns was on that bottle. K3LR. NP4G. N2NC. WM2H. N3GJ. K3UA. N2NL. W2RQ. N2NT. N5UM. N3SD. K1DG. DL1QQ. K1AR. And Bonnie, Mrs. N2NT. Calls from Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Germany, and points in between. All gathered in one place, one weekend, for the pure love of this ridiculous, magnificent hobby. All legends.

I signed mine : N2LQH.

The 2026 ARRL DX Phone Contest Team K3LR. Back row (l-r): N2NC, WM2H, NP4G, N3GJ, K3UA, N2NL, W2RQ, N5UM, N3SD, N2LQH. Middle: Bonnie, N2NT. Front row: K1DG, DL1QQ, K3LR, K1AR. First place, Multi-Multi : 11,829,195 points.

> ***A backyard cook from South Jersey, on a bottle with some of the best operators in the world. Because of a YouTube video, a childhood friend, and Sal Anastasio stretching the truth just enough.***

So there you have it. I am not a great chef. But I believe in one thing above all else - if you want to prove your value, give results in advance. Show it, don't talk about it. I try to do that with everyone I meet. Sal stretched the truth to get me in the door. I'd like to think the food and my willingness to help took it from there. And if Tim ever needs someone in the chair on 15 meters at 3 AM when the band goes quiet - well. N2LQH is already packed.

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K3LR World's Greatest Contest Station - Continued from page 32

Radio brings people together in ways you never expect. That's the whole point, isn't it?

Terry Rossi N2LQH, is a General class operator based in South Jersey and a member of the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club, SJRA, Burlington County Radio Club and several others. First licensed in the early nineties, his inaugural years on the air included a brief but unforgettable contact with cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev aboard the Mir Space Station - the man who would later be known as the last citizen of the USSR. After a long absence, Terry returned to the hobby in 2025, and has been making up for lost time ever since - most recently on HF and in the kitchen at K3LR.

Here is a really cool podcast generated from two AI characters talking about the article. Tim Duffy from K3LR sent it to me : https://www.k3lr.com/n2lqh.m4a

Terry has a more detailed article on his website. Go to : https://n2lqh.com/k3lr-visit

HURRICANE SEASON FORECASTS 2026
Forecaster
Named Storms
Total Hurricanes
Major Hurricanes
AccuWeather 11-16 4-7 2-4
AEM - WeatherWorks 6-12 2-6 1-3
Colorado State Univ. 13 6 2
Average (1991-2020) 14 7 3
Compiled by Len Melisurgo | Sources: AccuWeather, AEM, Colorado State University | Photo: Canva

Gloucester County ARES News : June 2026

By Steven Farney W2SEF - sef001@comcast.net
Gloucester County Emergency Coordinator

Hi Folks.

The state ARES coordinators have been conducting zoom meetings to understand the impact to public safety in New Jersey because of FIFA soccer matches at the Meadowlands in northern NJ on June 13th and July 19th. Most all of the conversations were about Princeton and north.

May 19, 2026 was the last zoom meeting held. If the state ARES powers feel that additional zoom meetings are required, I'll update everyone in future CrossTalks.

One of the things I found interesting presented at that meeting is the possibility that since I-95 goes right past the Meadowlands the road may be closed when games are in progress. I am not sure when FIFA matches are scheduled in Philadelphia, but pay attention to the news to see if I-95 will be closed during games at the Linc.

Bob Keogh KD2NEC, **Doug Dersch KD2VQA,** and **Court Smith KD2SPJ** have been participating in these zoom meetings. These gentlemen may develop a training session to coincide with the game dates (just one date). Bob and I talked about this on the phone after the 5/19 zoom meeting. It is still a fluid idea but I believe the plan will come together quickly. Anyone that would like to participate in any future ARES practice/training sessions, contact Bob, Doug, Court, or myself and let us know.

73 for now,
Steve W2SEF GCEC

ARES Resources (Updated as of January 2026)

ARRL ARES Registration Form July 2004: https://bit.ly/3Ae2pCf
ARES Manual March 2015 [PDF] : https://bit.ly/3iUhJLQ
ARES Field Resources Manual August 2019 [PDF] : https://bit.ly/4qDmOWb
ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book July 2024 Ver. 3.0 [Fillable PDF] : https://bit.ly/4dToEes
ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book July 2024 [Word] : https://bit.ly/4heLXSU
ARRL ARES Plan July 2025 : https://bit.ly/4pOZwwl
ARRL Emergency Communications Training : http://bit.ly/3J2gMMf
FEMA 2023 National Preparedness Report : https://bit.ly/3YrPWnY
Southern New Jersey Section Emergency Operations Plan 2023.PDF : https://bit.ly/3YqMdHb
ARRL ARES Monthly Newsletters : https://bit.ly/408OV5d

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable but is not a requirement for membership.

If you are interested in learning more about the Gloucester County ARES Program or becoming an ARES member, please contact Steve Farney W2SEF at : sef001@comcast.net.

Contact W2MMD During The Club QSO Party!

By Jim Wright N2GXJ

Want to have some fun by making a radio contact with your own Club, W2MMD? You can, and it will be appreciated! Turns out W2MMD is signed up to be a Club station participant in the Club QSO Party the weekend before field day. You heard about this event in person at the April Club meeting, and may have seen it mentioned in the May CrossTalk. Now for some more details.

There is an unusual "percent of your Club members who participated" thing that goes into overall scoring. And there is an unusual permission to use repeaters for contacts too. Well, let's have some fun with that (and toss some points towards the Club in this QSO party while we're at it)!

If you're not doing much on Friday night, June 19, 2026 at 8pm, give **W2MMD/67** a call on our 2 meter repeater! I'll be logging contacts for a half hour or so with as many of our Club members that call in that I can. Think we can get 100 Club members to show up in log as participants this way? Help boost our "percent of your Club members who participated" totals. If you call in, we might! It's that easy! EchoLink is accepted! The more, the merrier!

Saturday morning, June 20, 2026, out at the Clubhouse, **Mike Pentimall KC3VTF**, a.k.a ***"Saturday Mike"*** will be running the HF station as **W2MMD/67**, logging as many contacts as he can. Come on by and help him make and log a few Q's if you get the chance!

Want to see how many Club stations you can contact in addition to ours? It should be fun. And might be a good way to check your field day equipment (if you want it to) ahead of the following weekend. They even have a special update to the N1MM logger, if you want to get practice with that logger. You can access the update from : **https://sites.google.com/view/wwwclubqsopartyorg/logs-submission**. General info about the QSO party at : **http://www.clubqsoparty.org**.

Hope to hear you on the repeater Friday night June 19th!

To all Amateur Radio Clubs:

The ARRL has officially declared **2026 the Year of the Club**, and we're answering that call with a brand-new on-the-air event built *specifically* to energize your members and put your club front and center.

Introducing the Club QSO Party — the operating event designed FOR clubs, BY clubs.

Other than Field Day, there are very few true club-focused operating activities. **That changes now!**

Your club's station will operate using your call sign plus your club's age — for example: **K2AA/110** — instantly showcasing your club's history and identity every time you hit the air.

Why your club will love this event

- **Every mode counts** — Phone, CW, Digital
- **Every platform counts** — Repeaters, DMR, EchoLink, and more
- **Every band counts** — All amateur bands except WARC
- **Every member counts** — The more members who contact your club station, the bigger your club multiplier

This is truly an **all-inclusive** event. If it gets RF (or even VoIP) out into the world, it counts.

Event Dates - June 20th 00:00 UTC through June 21st 23:59 UTC

How to participate

- **Individual operators:** Get on the air and work as many clubs and operators as possible.
- **Clubs:** Put your club station on the air or allow members to operate using the club call with trustee permission. (Or both there are no geographical restraints)

Your mission:

Rally your members. Activate your club station. Show the amateur radio community who you are.

Full rules and details: www.clubqsoparty.org
Questions? Email info@clubqsoparty.org

73's
Ken K2WB

Sponsored by the South Jersey Radio Association, Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Gloucester County Radio Club, South Jersey Radio Foundation, Kent Amateur Radio Society and the South Jersey Mountain Toppers ARC.

GCARC WSPR Network : Building, Beaconing, and Beyond

By Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF

Two months of planning paid off in a big way when about 15 Club members and guests gathered over two Saturday sessions on May 2nd and 9th to build and test their own TAPR-based WSPR transmitters. The assembly process was straightforward but satisfying : solder four capacitors and four small inductors onto the circuit board, connect it to a Raspberry Pi 3, install a pre-programmed SD card, and attach it to the QRP Watt meter we built as a 2025 Club project. With bias levels set and power output confirmed, each unit was connected to the Clubhouse antenna and the results spoke for themselves. All but one unit received spots within short order (the lone exception was a 10-meter unit that was unlucky enough to transmit during a period when the band was closed). Participants then took their beacons home, connected them to home Wi-Fi and antennas, and joined the network.

The GCARC WSPR Network has grown quickly. We now have 13 unique stations active across five bands - 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10 meters - and were pleased to welcome several friends from the **South Jersey Radio Association** who joined the project.

To make the most of all that beacon data, we've been building a dedicated reporting website that weaves together WSPR spot data, solar weather, and propagation indicators into a single picture of current band conditions. You can see it at : **https://wp.w2mmd.org/wp/Club-activities/current-band-conditions** - it includes reports from individual GCARC network stations, the WW0WWV stations in Fort Collins, CO, and a range of other propagation data. We hope it becomes a useful resource for HF operators and a practical planning tool as Field Day approaches.

At Dayton Hamvention this year I had the pleasure of attending a presentation by **George Byrkit K9TRV** - TAPR's store manager who handled our board purchase and, as anyone who has met him can attest, a genuinely entertaining speaker. George takes a fascinatingly different angle on WSPR : rather than transmitting, he's focused entirely on receiving, running four different antenna systems simultaneously and rigorously comparing their performance.

GCARC WSPR Network - Continued on page 38

GCARC WSPR Network - Continued from page 37

His site near Ann Arbor, MI qualifies as ITU-R "Quiet Rural," but he's still had to hunt down a remarkable variety of noise sources - including, memorably, a noisy LED light fixture in his bathroom shower that was only discovered when his wife happened to turn it on while he was in the shack.

George's four antennas include the DXE RSEAV1 active whip and three variants of the N6GN Single Antenna System (SAS), a compact, balanced design that runs on ordinary CAT5 cable rather than coax - making it both less expensive and less prone to ground loop noise. His top performer turned out to be the Medium-Z SAS with double -gain preamp, followed by the RSEAV1, the High-Z SAS, and the standard Medium-Z SAS - though George is quick to note that your results will differ based on your own noise floor and what interference sources you're willing to tolerate. His practical advice on noise hunting is worth the price of admission alone : walk around your shack with a portable AM radio tuned to a dead frequency and listen to what it hears near your equipment - computers, monitors, test gear, and switching power supplies are all prime suspects.

Receiving WSPR is quite accessible using a Raspberry Pi and an SDR receiver with dedicated WSPRDAEMON software. If that sounds interesting, reach out and we'll put together some resources. George's slides from Dayton are available at : **https://files.tapr.org/meetings/Hamvention2026/K9TRV-Xenia2026.pdf**.

If you'd like to join the GCARC WSPR Network - whether with a TAPR board or another device - get in touch.

We're continuing to develop comparative reporting tools to help network participants tune and optimize their stations, so the best is still ahead.

73, Jon WB2MNF

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club Elmers

We are always looking for some Club Elmers. If you would to add your name to the Elmer's List, send your specialty to w2mmdgcarc@gmail.com. Here is what we have so far :

- **Tony Starr K3TS : Antenna Construction; Contesting; CW Help and Training**
- **Ken Bozarth KN2U : Antennas**
- **Karl Frank W2KBF : Digital Messaging (FLDIGI, WinLink)**
- **Lenny Rust W2LJR : DMR Radios & Programming; VOIP; POTA; 3-D Printing**
- **Ron Block NR2B : Lightning Protection & Grounding**
- **Chris Prioli AD2CS : Kit Building; Antenna Building; Radio Programming; PC and Electronic Troubleshooting; Ham Radio Licensing & Studying; Local & Remote W2MMD HF Station Operation; Training & Support**
- **John Zaruba Jr K2ZA : Yaesu System Fusion Radio Programming; POTA; SOTA; CW Learning & Operating; 3-D Printing**
- **Jerry Barnish K2EAB : Radio Astronomy**
- **Mike Thompson KG4JYA : Radio Astronomy; VARA (HF and FM); WinLink**
- **Steve Farney W2SEF : WSJT-X; FT-8; LoTW; TQSL; Grid Square**
- **Gary Mirkin WA3SVW : FLDIGI; MMSSTV**
- **Jon Pearce WB2MNF : Satellite Communications; DMR; GD77; WPSD**
- **Frank Romeo N3PUU : Construction; Plumbing; Electrical; Fabrication; Jack-Of-All Trades**
- **Rich Subers W2RHS : 3-D Printing**
- **Dave Sheppard W2PAX : National Traffic System**
- **Bob Pantazes W2ARP : How To Properly Manage QSL Cards**

Volunteer Monitor Program Report - March 2026

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the March 2026 activity report of the VM Program.

- Technician operators in Michigan, Oregon, Utah, and Connecticut were issued Advisory Notices for 40-meter FT8 operation, a band on which Technicians have no FT8 privileges but are allowed CW operation.
- Technician operators in Illinois, California, and Colorado were issued Advisory Notices for 20-meter FT8 operation, a band on which Technicians have no privileges.
- An Advisory Notice was issued to an operator in Indiana concerning his operation on an expired license.
- An operator in Colorado was issued a commendation for outstanding operation in the America250 special event. His operation was efficient and courteous, and complied exactly with the FCC's identification requirements for special events.
- The new automated FT4/FT8 monitoring system has begun generating incident reports. The new system appears to be very effective and fair in continuously monitoring data frequencies to ensure that operators have the proper license for the band on which they are using FT4 and FT8.
- There was a virtual presentation about the VM Program to an amateur radio club in Minnesota, and one FCC meeting concerning continuing enforcement issues on 40-meter SSB.

The totals for February 2026 monitoring were 1,964 hours on HF frequencies, and 2,560 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,524 hours.

Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH

2024-2028 Element 4 Amateur Extra Class License Question Quiz

This month we start with Subelement E6 Circuit Components (6 exam questions - 6 groups).
(***Answers on last page***)

E6A01
In what application is gallium arsenide used as a semiconductor material?
A. In high-current rectifier circuits
B. In high-power audio circuits
C. In microwave circuits
D. In very low-frequency RF circuits

E6A02
Which of the following semiconductor materials contains excess free electrons?
A. N-type
B. P-type
C. Bipolar
D. Insulated gate

E6A03
Why does a PN-junction diode not conduct current when reverse biased?
A. Only P-type semiconductor material can conduct current
B. Only N-type semiconductor material can conduct current
C. Holes in P-type material and electrons in the N-type material are separated by the applied voltage, widening the depletion region
D. Excess holes in P-type material combine with the electrons in N-type material, converting the entire diode into an insulator

E6A04
What is the name given to an impurity atom that adds holes to a semiconductor crystal structure?
A. Insulator impurity
B. N-type impurity
C. Acceptor impurity
D. Donor impurity

E6A05
How does DC input impedance at the gate of a field-effect transistor (FET) compare with that of a bipolar transistor?
A. They are both low impedance
B. An FET has lower input impedance
C. An FET has higher input impedance
D. They are both high impedance

E6A06
What is the beta of a bipolar junction transistor?
A. The frequency at which the current gain is reduced to 0.707
B. The change in collector current with respect to the change in base current
C. The breakdown voltage of the base-to-collector junction
D. The switching speed

Element 4 Amateur Extra Class Quiz - Continued on page 41

E6A07
Which of the following indicates that a silicon NPN junction transistor is biased on?
A. Base-to-emitter resistance of approximately 6 ohms to 7 ohms
B. Base-to-emitter resistance of approximately 0.6 ohms to 0.7 ohms
C. Base-to-emitter voltage of approximately 6 volts to 7 volts
D. Base-to-emitter voltage of approximately 0.6 volts to 0.7 volts

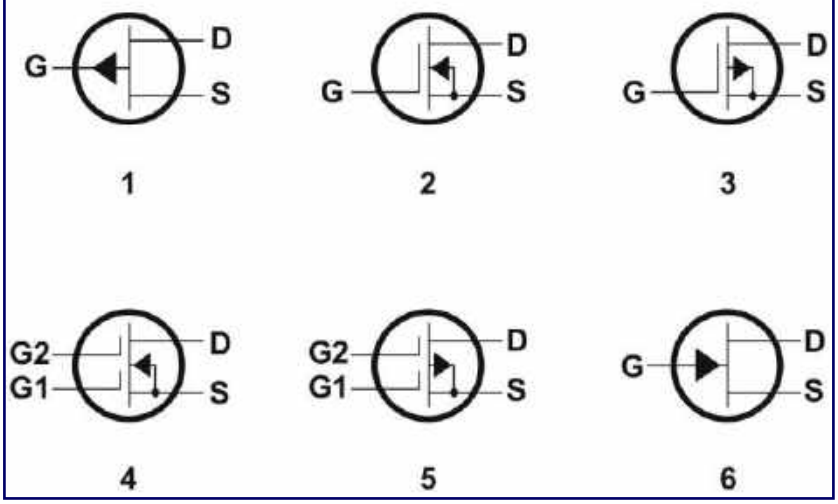
E6A08
What is the term for the frequency at which the grounded-base current gain of a bipolar junction transistor has decreased to 0.7 of the gain obtainable at 1 kHz?
A. Corner frequency
B. Alpha rejection frequency
C. Beta cutoff frequency
D. Alpha cutoff frequency

E6A09
What is a depletion-mode field-effect transistor (FET)?
A. An FET that exhibits a current flow between source and drain when no gate voltage is applied
B. An FET that has no current flow between source and drain when no gate voltage is applied
C. An FET that exhibits very high electron mobility due to a lack of holes in the N-type material
D. An FET for which holes are the majority carriers

E6A10
In Figure E6-1, which is the schematic symbol for an N-channel dual-gate MOSFET?
A. 2
B. 4
C. 5
D. 6

E6A11
In Figure E6-1, which is the schematic symbol for a P-channel junction FET?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 6

Figure E6-1



E6A12
What is the purpose of connecting Zener diodes between a MOSFET gate and its source or drain?
A. To provide a voltage reference for the correct amount of reverse-bias gate voltage
B. To protect the substrate from excessive voltages
C. To keep the gate voltage within specifications and prevent the device from overheating
D. To protect the gate from static damage

From The Help Desk - June 2026

By Chris Prioli AD2CS - chris@ad2cs.com - www.ad2cs.com

Note : This is an ongoing series of related articles that will each take a look at some facet of radio selection, installation, or operation as suggested by actual questions received from Club members or other amateur operators.

Q : How can the two leads of a typical through-hole LED be identified as to which is the anode and which is the cathode, and why does it matter?

A : Let's start by answering the last question first, and then move on to the more difficult one. All LED's are polarized devices. At its heart, an LED is, after all, just another diode, and as such it must be connected into the circuit with the correct polarity in order for it to do what we want it to do… which is usually to produce a light output.

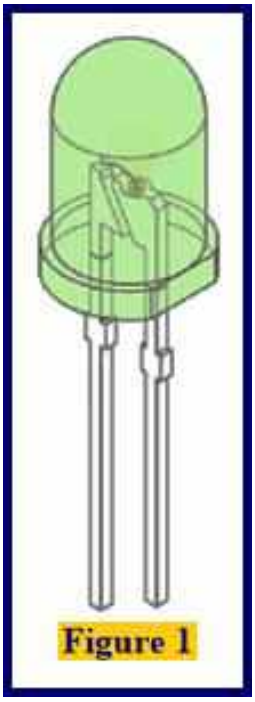


Figure 1

In order to produce its light output, an LED must be biased in the forward direction, which means that its anode must be at a voltage that is sufficiently more positive than its cathode to meet that LED's forward bias requirements. Notice that I did not say that one terminal must be positive and the other negative. That is because they can, in reality, both be either positive or negative, ***so long as the difference in voltage between the two terminals is great enough to satisfy the forward voltage bias requirement for operation of that LED***. For example, if the forward voltage of a given LED is 2.1VDC, that LED will illuminate just as well with the anode at +5.6VDC and the cathode at +3.5VDC as it will with the anode at +1.5VDC while the cathode is at -0.6VDC, or with the anode held at -1.0VDC while the cathode is at -3.1VDC. It is the ***voltage difference*** that is important here, ***not*** the actual voltages.

So… if it is the difference in voltage that matters, and if it is the polarity of that voltage that matters, then it is equally important that we know which lead, or in other words which terminal, is which. That brings us to the first question, which deals with how to identify which terminal is which. There are three common methods of identifying the terminal assignments, two of which ***may*** be inconclusive, leaving one method that should work every time… but which may also be the most difficult to discern.

Refer to the LED cutaway view shown in **Figure 1**. Look carefully and it will become apparent that one of the two structures inside the LED is somewhat larger than is the other. The manner in which many LED's are assembled has the semiconductor die mounted to a supporting structure to which the body of the N-type material is attached. A wire ***"whisker"*** is then bridged from the P-type material, which is deposited on top of the N-type body, over to the smaller internal structure. These internal structures are integral to the LED terminal leads. Thus, when viewed through the body or envelope of the LED, the lead which is common to the larger internal structure will be the negative or ***cathode*** lead. This leaves the lead that is common to the smaller internal structure as the positive or ***anode*** lead. This method of terminal lead identification is always reliable… when a) the envelope of the LED is transparent or is at least translucent enough to permit the internal structure to be seen, and b) when there is a difference in size between the internal structures, which is not always the case. That brings us to method number two.

In this method, we attempt to determine the terminal lead identity by the length of the individual leads. More often than not, the ***anode*** is the longer of the two leads, while the ***cathode*** is the shorter lead. As I said, however, this is ***usually***, but by no means ***always*** a reliable method of identification. In order to know for sure, it would be necessary to either combine this method with another one of the three methods, or to have a datasheet available for the LED at hand. The problem is that LED's are available with so-called ***"long cathodes".*** In some cases, that is the standard lead scheme used by a given manufacturer. In other situations, the "long cathode" is an optional or even a by-request configuration. Occasionally, LED's will be encountered with both terminal leads having the same length. So much for method two; now it is time to move on to method three.

From The Help Desk - Continued on page 43

From The Help Desk - Continued from page 42

This method is, to the best of my knowledge and experience, universal and is therefore always reliable. However, it is also often very difficult to see and identify, especially in smaller LED's like the 3mm or T1 size devices. The key to using this method is to identify the flatted side of the LED envelope. Refer again to the **Figure 1** drawing, and this time notice the flat on one side of the base of the LED envelope. This flat will always be positioned in alignment with the cathode terminal lead of the LED. When a given LED has a flanged lower edge, the flat can be more easily identified than what is possible when the LED has no flange. A magnifying glass can help, as can running a fingernail around the base of the LED envelope to feel the ***"points"*** where the shape of the LED changes from round to flattened and back again. The good part is that when the flat can be found, it is absolutely diagnostic and reliable.

I hope that this explanation helps to improve your understanding of LED terminal lead identification. Hopefully, it will also broaden your overall knowledge of the design and structure of discrete LED's. Taken in its entirety, this information should help to make your electronics project and kit assembly tasks just a bit easier.

Jersey String Band Update Report

By Glenn Dougherty N2YIO

Recap from May : The Band had three parades :

- Saturday, May 16, 2026, they took part in the Pennsville Memorial Day Parade.
- Monday, May 25, 2026, Memorial Day, they were in the Glassboro Memorial Day Parade.
- Saturday, May 30, 2026, they took part in the Mummers Along Haddon Ave Parade in Haddonfield.

Coming up on Saturday, June 13, 2026, the Band has two events :

- The Band will travel to Stafford, NJ in the morning for a parade.
- Then head down to North Wildwood to the Seaport Pier along with the other 13 String Bands for the 6th Annual String Band PMSBA Luau Paloosa Fundraiser.
- If anyone is interested the tickets for this event are $25 and there will be food and drink specials available along with association merch for sale.
- This event helps offset the cost of the New Years Day Parade which the City of Philadelphia doesn't fund any longer and the bands do get a portion of the ticket sales.

On Sunday, June 14, 2026, they help out the Virtua Hospital with their Run with the Docs 5K Run.

On Saturday, June 20, 2026, they will travel to Bradford, PA for a parade.

On Saturday, June 27, 2026, the Band will travel to Frackville PA for it's 150th Anniversary Parade.

The Band will have parades on Saturday, July 4, 2026 :

- We will be in Paulsboro at 10 am.
- We will then travel to Runnemede for their parade.
- Then in the evening we will be in Washington Township for another job.

We will be on the Boardwalk in Ocean City NJ on Thursday, July 9th from 6:30-9:00pm. We will march up to 8th or 9th Street, meet up with another band play a few songs the head back to 6th Street.

We will do the same thing on Tuesday, August 18th again from 6th street and then our final Boardwalk job will be on Tuesday, August 25th, but this time we will be starting from 14th Street.

Those Boardwalk jobs are a lot of fun with big crowds. A lot of people doing the strut and getting pictures taken with our Captain.

We are hoping to get part of our 2027 New Years Music sometime in May so we can start going over it. If anyone knows someone that would like to join the Band, we meet every Wednesday evening at the Woodbury Heights Fire Hall from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Even if you don't have the time but would like to sit in with the band, all are welcome. We are also looking for a building to hold our New Years rehearsals in from the end of October till right before New Years. Please contact me through the Club Roster or contact our Captain Patrick Walton Sr. on the Bands Facebook page.

Thank you for letting me include these reports in CrossTalk. I know I am not real active in the Club, but this lets me stay involved.

Current Website Updates : Go to this page to find out the latest changes & updates on our W2MMD Website
https://gloucestercountyarc.weebly.com/current-website-updates.html

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Meeting opened @ 1900 Hours by President Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Attendance :

- **In-person : 42**
- **Via Zoom : 21**

Visitors :

- **Nick Wilson**
- **Bob Famiglio K3RF**

New Members :

- **Paul Molinari N2MVK, Laurel, NJ**

Announcements :

- **2026 Club Family Picnic 5/30/26 @ Ella Harris Recreation Park, Mullica Hill.**

Upcoming Clubhouse Events :

- **Tech Saturday Forum 5/9/26 WSPR Network Assembly**
- **License Testing 5/14/26 @ 7PM**
- **BoD Meeting 5/20/26 @ 7PM**
- **Make-up WSPR Assembly Meeting 5/23/26 @ 9AM**
- **Dinner at the Clubhouse 5/27/26 @ 6PM**

Member current activities :

- **Jon Pearce WB2MNF** reported on the last Tech Saturday session, building cables and installing connectors.
- **John Zaruba K2ZA** reported on his WSPR experiences.

Business Meeting :

Minutes of the April 2026 business meeting as published in CrossTalk were approved by voice vote of members present.

Treasurer's report :

2026 Year to Date Income and Expense

Remarks :

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Foundation :

- Report : **John O'Connell K2QA** reported the foundation funded the supplies for the recent connector installation class.

Clubhouse report :

- Report : **Al Arrison KB2AYU** discussed progress on the grounding project.

May 2026 General Membership Meeting Minutes - Continued on page 46

Future programs :

- June 3, 2026 : "Meteor Scatter"
- July 1, 2026 : "Pizza Night"
- August 5, 2026 : "Apollo EVCS"
- September 2, 2026 : "AI in Amateur Radio"
- October 7, 2026 : "SDR on a Budget"
- November 4, 2026 : TBD
- December 2, 2026 : "Clubhouse Ground System Wrap-Up"

DX and Contests :

- Report : **Tony Starr K3TS** provided his report via Zoom, details in this month's CrossTalk.

Field Day :

- Report : **Jim Wright N2GXJ** discussed Field Day preparations and needs.

Education Committee :

- Report : **Angela Metzger KE2DRJ** discussed Woodruff School STEM Club visit to the Clubhouse.

Technical committee :

- Report : **Jon Pearce WB2MNF** discussed the WSPR network project, with a focus on the filter build session on Saturday 5/2/26.

Old Business :

- Motion to approve the Treasurer's report passed by voice vote of members present.
- **Stan Slachetka WA2JRZ** provided an update on the 250th American Revolution Anniversary POTA events.

New Business :

- **Angela Metzger KE2DRJ** requested some assistance with fox hunting at an upcoming STEM Club camping trip.

Presentation : "Future Proofing ARES" by Bob Famiglio K3RF

Meeting adjourned @ 1953 Hours.

Respectfully submitted,
John Zaruba K2ZA,
Recording Secretary

W2MMD

www.facebook.com/W2MMD

There is a new website for the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiner Team. Everything you need to know about getting your ham license or upgrading your license can be found on this website. Pass It Around!

https://veteam.w2mmd.org

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Meeting opened @ 1900 Hours by President Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF

Attendance :

- **President Jon Pearce WB2MNF : Present**
- **Vice President Ron Block NR2B : Present**
- **Treasurer John O'Connell K2QA : Present**
- **Recording Secretary John Zaruba Jr K2ZA : Present**
- **Corresponding Secretary Mike Resnick N2WOQ : Present**
- **Director (2024-2026) Al Arrison KB2AYU : Present**
- **Director (2024-2026) Bill Price NJ2S : Present**
- **Director (2025-2027) Jeffrey Garth WB2ZBN : Present**
- **Director (2025-2027) Frank Romeo N3PUU : Present**
- **Director (2026-2028) Chris Prioli AD2CS : Present**
- **Director (2026-2028) James Wright N2GXJ : ZOOM**
- Trustee (2023-2026) Sheldon Parker K2MEN :
- **Trustee (2024-2027) Len Rust W2LJR : Present**
- Trustee (2025-2028) Earl Moore KC2NCH :
- **Trustee (2026-2029) Greg Ciraula K3GC : Present**
- **Member Angela Metzger KE2DRJ : Present**
- **Member Craig Metzger KE2DNU : Present**

New Member Applications :

- **Kevin Durrenberger AD2NB, Mount Royal, NJ**
- **Tony Giardina Jr WE2D, Galloway Township, NJ**
- **William Guerro Sr W4WAG, Egg Harbor Township, NJ**
- **Carl Hyde W2CSH, Mount Laurel, NJ**
- **Robert Lange (No Call Yet), Somerdale, NJ**
- **Steven Mariano KC2VNI, Atco, NJ (Returning Member 2015)**

Treasurer's Report :

- **Income : $11,495.61**
- **Expense : $5,405.25**
- **Net : $6,090.36**

Detailed financial statements are available for member review upon request.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report passed by voice vote of Club officers present.

Committees :

- **Public Service : Jon Pearce WB2MNF** and **Craig Metzger KE2GNU** discussed EmComm ideas they picked up at Dayton Hamvention.
- **Programs : Frank Romeo N3PUU** discussed preparations for the upcoming Club Picnic. **Jon Pearce WB2MNF** reported on upcoming Tech Saturday Forums.
- **Clubhouse : Al Arrison KB2AYU** discussed the progress of the RF grounding project which is nearly complete.

May 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Continued on page 48

May 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Continued from page 47

- **Education : Angela Metzger KE2DRJ** reported on her trip to Dayton Hamvention as SNJ Section Youth Coordinator. **Jon Pearce WB2MNF** discussed the results of the recent WSPR beacon construction project.
- **Field Day : Jim Wright N2GXJ** reported on Field Day preparations.
- **Membership : Jon Pearce WB2MNF** discussed attendance reporting from the digital registration system.
- **Technical Committee : Jon Pearce WB2MNF** reported on ISS/DATV dish work.

Old Business :

- Motion to approve previous meeting minutes as published in CrossTalk passed by voice vote of Club officers present.
- **Bill Price NJ2S** is going to evaluate a possible chair donation for the Clubhouse.

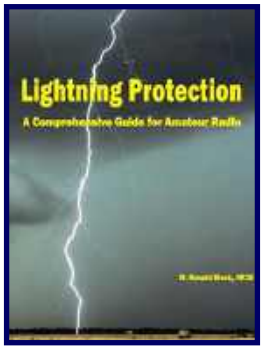
New Business :

- Motion to accept new member applications passed by voice vote of Club officers present.
- **Chris Prioli AD2CS** reported the passing of **Bruce Canino KD2LBU**.
- **John Zaruba K2ZA** reported on the meeting that **Stan Slachetka WA2JRZ** and him had with the Hancock House site manager regarding the Saturday, August 1, 2026 POTA / 250th American Revolution Anniversary special event.
- **Jim Wright N2GXJ** reported on generating participation for the SJRA Club QSO Party contest.
- **Mike Resnick N2WOQ** inquired about GCARC possibly taking over some repeaters in Cumberland County managed by a (now) Silent Key. **Chris Prioli AD2CS** offered to help Mike with research to answer questions raised during the discussion.
- **Club Nets :**
  - ♦ **40 Meter Net :** 7.165 MHz (+/- 10 kHz) @ 1930 Hours
  - ♦ **2 Meter Nets :**
    - ◊ **April 2026 :**
      - ⇒ Tuesday : Average 8.5 check ins
      - ⇒ Thursday : Average 7.2 check ins

Meeting adjourned @ 2033 Hours

Respectfully Submitted,
John Zaruba Jr K2ZA
Recording Secretary

Lightning Protection :
A Comprehensive Guide for Amateur Radio
Author : W. Ronald Block, NR2B
Contact : ron@wrblock.com
Website : www.wrblock.com



Join ARRL In Celebrating America's 250th - On The Air!

In 2026, ARRL is commemorating America's 250th birthday with a yearlong on-the-air celebration: the America250 Worked All States (WAS) Award. Running from January 1 through December 31, this special operating event challenges amateurs of all license classes to contact all 50 US states and confirm those QSOs via **ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW - https://lotw.arrl.org/lotwuser/default).** Modeled after the classic WAS Award, America250 WAS encourages activity across nearly every band - from LF through microwaves - and on CW, phone, and digital, culminating in a commemorative, frameworthy WAS certificate.

Participants can pursue America250 WAS in many ways, with endorsements recognizing achievements by band, by mode, Triple Play (all three modes), by satellite, by contacting ARRL Affiliated Club Stations in all 50 states, and by contacting W1AW/portable in all 50 states. Throughout 2026, the iconic W1AW call sign will be "loaned" to stations nationwide, activating each state twice during the year. All confirmations are handled through LoTW, making it easy to track progress and apply for awards and endorsements. Operations begin 0000z on Wednesday, and end on 2359z Tuesday (7 days total for each activation).

See the complete schedule at the QR Code or the following URL : https://tinyurl.com/America250Schedule

Another FREE Clubhouse Resource Available To All Club Members

Training May Be Required : See Jon Pearce, WB2MNF For Details

Regional Skywarn Websites For On-Line And In-Person Training Classes

Philadelphia/Mt Holly Skywarn : www.weather.gov/phi/skywarn
State College, PA Skywarn : www.weather.gov/ctp/skywarn
Pittsburgh, PA Skywarn : www.weather.gov/pbz/skywarn

Weather Information Nets & Frequencies

Hurricane Watch Net : www.hwn.org

- **Day Time : 14.325 MHz**
- **Night Time : 7.268 MHz**
- **Information : 14.300 MHz**

Local SKYWARN Frequencies :

- **Atlantic County : K2BR, 146.745 MHz (-) 146.2 Hz**
  - ◊ **Net Every Monday @ 1900 Hours**
- **Camden County : K2EOC, 146.895 MHz (-) 91.5 Hz**
  - ◊ **Net Every Thursday @ 2030 Hours**
- **Cumberland County : WA2WUN, 145.490 MHz, (-) 179.9 Hz**
  - ◊ **Net Every Monday @ 1930 Hours**
- **Gloucester County : W2MMD, 147.180 MHz (+) 131.8 Hz**
  - ◊ **Net Every Sunday @ 1930 Hours**
- **Salem County : N2KEJ, 146.625 MHz (-) 131.8 Hz**

What is a Skywarn Spotter?
By Jonathan Guseman KJ4ZWS, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
National Weather Service Central PA - https://www.weather.gov/skywarn

Spotters are our eyes/ears in the field! The NWS depends on our spotters to give us ground truth, therefore assisting in warning issuance and being heavily involved in reporting and documentation. As we issue warnings from inside of our offices, we greatly appreciate our spotters assisting us in the field and describing to us what is happening.

Sunday, June 21, 2026 @ 0425 Hours

To Be Added To The DX HONOR ROLL or Update Your Number, Please Contact Ernest Kraus KD2EAV meanddelcanotc@verizon.net

Name/Callsign	DXCC
Bill Grim W0MHK	352
Dave Strout W2YC	349
Edward De Fonzo W2DE	339
Darrell Neron AB2E	337
Bob Pantazes W2ARP	300
Gary Castellini N2IEC	288
Jim Wright N2GXJ	286
Sheldon Parker K2MEN	285
Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY	280
John Hill W2HUV	271
Tony Starr K3TS	250
Kenny Denson WB2P	248
Dennis Sandole K2SE	231
Bart Kleczynski AC2PT	180
Eric Morris N2BRJ	175
Art Strong KA0WS	169
Howard Marder WA2IBZ	161
Ben Johnson NE2R	153
Phil Nunzio WA3RGY	151
Steve Farney W2SEF	149
Rich Subers W2RHS	133
Marc Federici WM2Y	117
Chuck Capasso WB2PGE	104
Harry Strahlendorf W3DNQ	103
Jim Clark KA2OSV	87
Updated As Of 05/20/2026	

Happy Birthday : June 23, 1939

Hmm...It's Saturday and you want to know if someone is at the Clubhouse? Why not call and find out!

W2MMD Clubhouse : 856-244-6914

Full Strawberry Moon - Monday, June 29, 2026 @ 1958 Hours

Used by the Algonquin, Ojibwe, Dakota, and Lakota peoples, among others, this name came about because ripe strawberries were ready to be gathered at this time. Similarly, Berries Ripen Moon is a Haida term. Blooming Moon (Anishinaabe) is indicative of the flowering season. The time for tending crops is indicated by Green Corn Moon (Cherokee) and Hoer Moon (Western Abenaki). Eighteenth-century Captain Jonathan Carver wrote that Native Americans whom he had visited used the term Hot Moon. The Tlingit used the term Birth Moon, referring to the time when certain animals are born in their region. Egg Laying Moon and Hatching Moon are Cree terms for this period.

Old Farmer's Almanac - www.almanac.com

"The big thing about being in a club and being a "Ham" is to help each other when there is a need "
- W2SEF

Electronic Tool Tip #18 - Strain Relief Bushing Pliers

By Chris Prioli AD2CS - chris@ad2cs.com - www.ad2cs.com

Sometimes, a specialized tool is called for not only to make the job easier, to also to preclude the infliction of damage to the assembled parts. This is the case with the strain relief bushings that are so often used at power cord entry points into equipment enclosures. These bushings are basically two-piece devices with the two sections tethered to each other. They have to be squeezed together around the power cord in order to insert the assembled bushing into the opening in the enclosure panel. It is possible to install a strain relief bushing using standard slip-joint pliers, but not without leaving ugly tool marks in the bushing. The proper tool to use is a pair of ***strain relief bushing pliers***.

The leading manufacturer of these strain relief bushings is a company known as ***Heyco***, although other companies certainly offer these bushings. Recently, I had occasion to install a bushing into a newly-refurbished piece of test equipment, and I did not want to leave the tell-tale tooth marks in the bushing to mar an otherwise pristine tube tester. I decided to investigate the cost of the correct tool for this job. I was floored when I saw the prices for the Heyco tools. There are two different tools offered, the Heyco 0021 and the Heyco 0022 pliers. The 0021 sells for about $170.00, and the 0022 for about $70.00, both available at **Mouser Electronics (www.mouser.com)**. I felt that this was too costly for a single-purpose tool, so I decided to investigate other alternatives. Naturally, I tried Amazon, and I am glad that I did.

I found a tool called the ***"Philmore Nylon Strain Relief Bushing Pliers"*** that would do the job perfectly, as they are designed for just this purpose. What's more, one single tool actually replaces both of the Heyco tools. This tool will grip the bushing properly right behind the flange, squeezing the halves together nicely while still permitting the bushing to be inserted in place, and the job is done without damage to the bushing or the equipment. Whether the bushing is going into a round hole or a so-called "double-D" hole, it will go in easily every time.

The same tool is used for removal of an installed bushing, as well. This permits easy disassembly of equipment without doing any harm to either the bushing or the equipment, and also permits re-use of the removed bushing.

This tool is available online from Amazon, at a price of $9.95 (USD) plus shipping if you are not an Amazon Prime member. Of course, the government has to get its share, so tax will also be applied. Point your browser to **https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07B6843WT** if you want to investigate this item for yourself.

June Birthdays

Congratulations To Our Members Who Are Celebrating A Birthday This Month

Albert Christopher KD2PDW
Kenny Denson, WB2P
Carmen Di Camillo KA3WYV
Glenn Dougherty N2YIO
Glen Guenther KE2BUO
Peter Harow W2QB
Chris Prioli AD2CS
Gregg Valentine KD2VBH
Anthony Vece W2AJV

In Memoriam : June Birthdays

Joseph Anlage W2PH
Joseph Arsenault WA2KDV
Joshua Brehm Sr AE2L
Raymond Buirch KB2BIG
John Cliver III N2NLE
Walter Conover N2SRH
Edwin Datz N2PJV
William Frambes K2WAF (President 1971)
Harry Gindhart KE3SN
Helmut Leibfarth WA2LTY
Robert Marshall N2BDH
Philip Mattison WA2WOD
Kenneth Newman N2CQ (President 1970)
Robert Owens KD2SIO
Ralph Ralls Sr WA2CVW (Charter Member)
Arthur Roberts W2UNI
Raymond Schnapp WA2NBJ
(President 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004)
Charles Sketchley K2PQD (Charter Member)
Francis Snyder WA2TKN

CrossTalk Submissions

This is your Club Magazine. Make use of it.

If you have stories or photos of your hobby that you would like to share with the Club, please do so! We will keep covering all of the GCARC events, but it is also nice to get those personal perspectives to include in every issue. Connecting through experiences is what makes the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club a *REAL* Club.

All submissions, queries, comments, and editorials should be addressed to :
Jeff Garth WB2ZBN at djgrath1 <*at*> gmail <*dot*> com

Submission deadline for the July 2026 issue : Saturday, June 20, 2026

Club Website www.w2mmd.org
Club E-Mail Reflector : GCARC <*at*> Mailman <*dot*> QTH <*dot*> Net

Announced DX Operations : June 2026
www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html
From The Shack of Bill Feidt NG3K : www.ng3k.com

2026 May19	2026 Jun07	**Juan Fernandez Is**	**3G0Z** NEW	M0URX	OPDX 20260508	By XQ7IR fm Robinson Crusoe I (IOTA SA-005); 160-6m, focus on low bands; FT8 CW SSB; 800w
2026 May20	2026 Jun19	**Namibia**	**V5**	LoTW	TDDX 20260327	By N7XOB as V5/N7XOB; 7.165 and 14.265 MHz; SSB
2026 May21	2026 May24	**Palau**	**T8** NEW	LoTW	DXW.Net 20260508	By JR3QFB as T88JH, JA1MFR as T88KY, JF3PLF as T88IL fm Koror; HF
2026 May24	2026 Jun01	**St Kitts & Nevis**	**V4**	LoTW	OPDX 20250904	By WW6W as V4/WW6W fm St Kitts I; QRV for CQWW WPX CW Contest; QSL via WW6W direct
2026 May25	2026 May28	**Ascension I**	**ZD8KX**	eQSL	DXW.Net 20260424	By M0HXC; 40-10; mainly CW, SSB FT8 FT4; 5-10w; QSL via eQSL
2026 May25	2026 May30	**Cyprus SBA**	**ZC4RH**	LoTW	DXW.Net 20260504	By G4WXJ; 40-6m; CW SSB FT8; 50w; dipole; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DK6SP
2026 May25	2026 Jun03	**Chatham Is**	**ZL7IO**	LoTW	ZL3IO 20260409	By ZL3IO; 160-10m; CW SSB + digital; QRV for CQ WPX CW; QSL via DK7AO
2026 May26	2026 Jun02	**Martinique**	**TO3E**	LoTW	AB2E 20260110	By AB2E; @FM5BH; QRV for CQ WPX CW Contest
2026 May26	2026 Jun06	**Bolivia**	**CP7DX**	Club Log OQRS	OPDX 20260415	By LU1FM LU1HF LU2JCW LU3FR LU3VED LU6FOV LU7HN LU8VCC LU9FHF fm Tarija (FG78pl); 160-2m, incl 60m; CW SSB FT8; QSL via LU1FM; QRV for CQ WPX CW Contest
2026 May27	2026 May31	**Palau**	**T88PB**	LoTW	OPDX 20260506	By JA0JHQ; QRV for CQ WPX CW Contest; QSL via JA0JHQ direct
2026 May27	2026 Jun08	**Bonaire**	**PJ4CB**	WA7RAR Direct	OPDX 20260319	By WA7RAR fm various Bonaire locations, some POTA; 20-10m; SSB CW; 1/4 wave telescoping vertical; no SASE or green stamp required for QSL
2026 May28	2026 May28	**Azerbaijan**	**4K0T** NEW	LoTW	OPDX 20260510	By Azerbaijan Radio Amateur Society fm Absheron National Park (LN50eg, POTA AZ-0004); HF; SSB
2026 May28	2026 Jun01	**Maldives**	**8Q7QR**	JJ1DQR	TDDX 20260330	By JJ1DQR; HF; holiday style operation; QRV for CQ WPX CW
June						
2026 Jun01	2026 Jun14	**Lord Howe I**	**VJ1L** NEW	LoTW	TDDX 20260507	By 7 ops; 40-10m, perhaps 80m; CW FT8 SSB; QSL via M0OXO
2026 Jun03	2026 Jun12	**Tanzania**	**5H1KB**	LoTW	TDDX 20260309	By DL2SBY fm Zanzibar I; focus on 6m; QSL via DL2SBY direct
2026 Jun08	2026 Jul07	**Tanzania**	**5H3DX**	LoTW	TDDX 20260409	By NK8O fm Dodoma; 40-6m; CW FT8 FT4; 100w; dipole, vertical, longwire
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun18	**Palau**	**T88AR**	LoTW	TDDX 20251202	By JA6UBY fm Koror; 160-6m; FT8 FT4 SSB FM (on 10m); QSL via JA6UBY
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun24	**St Martin**	**FS**	LoTW	OPDX 20260122	By K9EL as FS/K9EL; 80-6m, focus on 6m; CW FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2026 Jun11	2026 Jun22	**St Kitts & Nevis**	**V47JA** NEW	LoTW	W5JON 20260510	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m, incl 60m; SSB FT8; yagi, verticals; QSL also OK via W5JON direct
2026 Jun12	2026 Jun29	**Curacao**	**PJ2**	LoTW	TDDX 20260120	By PH2M as PJ2/PH2M; 80-6m, including 60m; mainly FT8 FT4, some SSB
2026 Jun19	2026 Jun22	**Palau**	**T88TB**	LoTW	TDDX 20251202	By JA0JHQ fm Koror IOTA OC-099, P77fi); HF; QRV for All Asian DX CW Contest; QSL via JA0JHQ direct
2026 Jun20	2026 Jun22	**Armenia**	**EK**	DL2JRM (B/d)	OPDX 20260311	By DL2JRM as EK/DL2JRM; CW SSB
2026 Jun27	2026 Jul14	**St Pierre & Miquelon**	**FP**	LoTW	TDDX 20260302	By KV1J as FP/KV1J; 80-6m; SSB CW FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS or KV1J direct; QRV for IARU contest and CQ VHF Contest

Also for your convenience, there is a direct link to NG3K on our website. Click on the NG3K DX Page.

June 2026 Contest Calendar - WA7BNM Contest Calendar : www.contestcalendar.com

June 2026	
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 1
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 1
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, Jun 1
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 1
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 2
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jun 2
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 2
Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 3
A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, Jun 3
CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 3
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, Jun 3
Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Jun 3
Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Jun 3
CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 3
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA	0000Z-0500Z, Jun 4
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 4 and 0200Z-0300Z, Jun 5
CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 4
CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, Jun 4
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Jun 4 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Jun 4 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 4 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Jun 4 (Dig)
SKCC Sprint Europe	2000Z-2200Z, Jun 4
NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, Jun 5
Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 5
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 5
HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	1900Z-1929Z, Jun 5 (40m) and 1930Z-1959Z, Jun 5 (80m)
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Jun 5
VK Shires Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 6
PODXS 070 Club Three Day Weekend Contest	0000Z, Jun 6 to 2359Z, Jun 8
Tisza Cup CW Contest	0000Z-1459Z, Jun 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Jun 6 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 6 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 6 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 6
UKSMG Summer Contest	1300Z, Jun 6 to 1300Z, Jun 7
Kentucky QSO Party	1300Z, June 6 to 0100Z, Jun 7
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 6 to 1459Z, Jun 7
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 6 to 1500Z, Jun 7
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	1800Z, Jun 6 to 2400Z, Jun 7
Atlantic Canada QSO Party	1400Z, Jun 7 to 0100Z, Jun 8
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 8
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 8
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, Jun 8
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 8
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jun 9
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 9
DARC CW-Training Contest	1800Z-1859Z, Jun 9
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 10
Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 10
A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, Jun 10
CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 10
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, Jun 10
Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Jun 10
Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Jun 10
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 10
CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 10
PVRC Reunion	2100Z-2400Z, Jun 10
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA	0000Z-0500Z, Jun 11
CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 11
CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, Jun 11
PVRC Reunion	2200Z, Jun 11 to 0100Z, Jun 12
NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, Jun 12
Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 12
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 12
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Jun 12
PVRC Reunion	2300Z, Jun 12 to 0200Z, Jun 13
YB ORARI DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 13
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 13
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jun 13 to 2400Z, Jun 14
Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 13 to 1200Z, Jun 14
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Jun 13 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jun 13 (432)
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1400Z, Jun 13 to 1400Z, Jun 14

June 2026 Contest Calendar - Continued on page 56

June 2026 Contest Calendar - Continued from page 55

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 13 to 1500Z, Jun 14
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 13 to 0259Z, Jun 15
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 15
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 15
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 15
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, Jun 15
RSGB FT4 Contest	1900Z-2100Z, Jun 15
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 15
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jun 16
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 16
SARL Youth QSO Party	1200Z-1300Z, Jun 16
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 17
Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 17
A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, Jun 17
CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 17
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, Jun 17
Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Jun 17
Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Jun 17
CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 17
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA	0000Z-0500Z, Jun 18
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 18 and 0200Z-0300Z, Jun 19
CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 18
CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, Jun 18
NTC QSO Party	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 18
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Jun 19
NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, Jun 19
Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 19
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 19
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Jun 19
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 20 to 2400Z, Jun 21
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 20 to 2400Z, Jun 21
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 20
Pajajaran Bogor DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 20
SKCC QSO Party	1200Z, Jun 20 to 2359Z, Jun 21
IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jun 20 to 1400Z, Jun 21
LZ International 6-Meter Contest	1400Z, Jun 20 to 1400Z, Jun 21
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 20 to 1500Z, Jun 21
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 20 to 0400Z, Jun 21
ARRL Kids Day	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 20
WAB 50 MHz Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jun 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Jun 21 to 0100Z, Jun 22
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 22
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 22
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, Jun 22
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 22
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jun 23
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 23
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 24
Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 24
A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, Jun 24
CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 24
Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Jun 24
Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Jun 24
CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 24
CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 25
CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, Jun 25
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Jun 26
NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, Jun 26
Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 26
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 26
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Jun 26
UFT QRP Contest	0600Z-0900Z, Jun 27 and 1400Z-1700Z, Jun 27
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 27 to 1200Z, Jun 28
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 27 to 2100Z, Jun 28
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jun 29
QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 29
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 29
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, Jun 29
QCX Challenge	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 29
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 29
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jun 30
QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 30
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 30

PARKS & REC COMMISSION PRESENTS

TOWN APPRECIATION DAY

MUSIC FESTIVAL

A NIGHT OF LIVE MUSIC, FOOD, FUN & FIREWORKS!

June 6, 2026 | 4-10:30 PM

Rain Date: June 7, 2026

MAIN STAGE

GMF

GOODMAN FISKE BAND

Beer & Wine Garden hosted by Williamstown Fire Department

LOCATION

OWENS PARK
690 N TUCKAHOE RD
WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ 08094

SECOND STAGE

100+ VENDORS & LARGE FOOD COURT

- Amusements for All Ages
- Ride Wristbands Available
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Discover the past, present, & future of music, home entertainment, and sound related industries through the official archive & museum of Victor Talking Machine Co., RCA-Victor, RCA, HMV, VMI.

His Master's Voice Museum, Memorial, & Archive opens at Bldg. 21 of Victor SoundWorks Complex, 150-160 S. White Horse Pike Berlin, NJ | Camden County - Adjacent to the HMV-Victrola Theatre, and Little Nipper Memorial

OPENING FALL 2026

AT THE NEW

VICTOR SOUNDWORKS

2026 Club Committees

Standing Committees	Committee Chairs
Budget	John O'Connell K2QA
Constitution & By-Laws	Ron Block NR2B
Education	Chris Prioli AD2CS
Field Day	Jim Wright N2GXJ
Hamfest	Ron Block NR2B
Health, Welfare, & Silent Keys	Bill Price NJ2S
Hospitality	Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
Membership & Membership Badges	Chris Prioli AD2CS
Publicity	Mike Resnick N2WOQ
Repeaters	John Zaruba Jr K2ZA
Volunteer Examiner Liaison	Chris Prioli AD2CS
W2MMD Clubhouse Site	Al Arrison KB2AYU

Activity Committees	Committee Chairs
Awards & Certificates	GCARC Board of Directors
Club Photographer	Phil Nunzio WA3RGY
Club Publications & Historian	Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
Contests	Tony Starr K3TS
GCARC Foxhunts	Jim Wright N2GXJ
GCARC Picnic	Frank Romeo N3PUU
GC-ARES Emergency Coordinator	Bob Keogh KD2NEC
Holiday Dinner Party	Beth Barnish KB2EAL
Membership Roster Database	Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
Nominations	Jon Pearce WB2MNF
Programs : General Membership Meetings	Ron Block NR2B
Radio Nets	Steve Farney W2SEF & Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
Technical (Tech Saturday, TechNets)	Jon Pearce WB2MNF
W2MMD License Trustee	Darrell Neron AB2E
W2MMD Special Event Station	Mark Gottlieb KK2L

GCARC <*at*> Mailman <*dot*> QTH <*dot*> Net e-mail reflector guidelines

1. **No attachments** (e.g. pictures, files) are allowed on the reflector.
2. If you have Club-related pictures that you would like to share, you can send them to the webmaster, he will put them on the website and will send out a general e-mail to all the members.
3. Otherwise, the pictures will have to be sent to the members' addresses.
4. URLs/Hyperlinks are acceptable on the reflector.
5. Do not send any messages with e-mail addresses in the **BCC** (**Blind Carbon Copy**) field. The message will be rejected. Use only the **To:** or **CC:** fields.
6. Members are subscribed to the reflector using the member's e-mail address from the roster database. You must use that address when sending an e-mail via the reflector.
7. If you use another address on the reflector, the message will get rejected or "*bounced*", because the reflector does not recognize that address. Whenever a message sent to reflector is rejected or *"bounced"* for various reasons, the administrator has to log-in to the Mailman.QTH website and approve the message.

The W2MMD Repeaters

2 Meter Repeater
Output : 147.180 MHz
Input : 147.780 MHz
Offset : +600 kHz - PL : 131.8 Hz
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)
EchoLink : W2MMD-R

70 cm Repeater
Output : 442.100 MHz
Input : 447.100 MHz
Offset : +5 MHz - PL : 131.8 Hz
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

The above repeaters are both
located in Pitman, NJ
GPS : 39.728481°, -75.131088°

1.25 Meter Repeater
Output : 224.660 MHz
Input : 223.060 MHz
Offset : -1.6 MHz - PL : 131.8 Hz
Location : Sewell, NJ
GPS : 39.746738°, -75.077094°

SKYWARN™ Net
Sunday @ 1930 : 147.180 MHz Repeater

Gloucester County ARES Net
Sunday @ 2000 : 147.180 MHz Repeater

GCARC TechNet ZOOM Forum
Available Every Monday @ 1930 Hours
Join ZOOM Meeting Link :
https://bit.ly/3K8bWwj

Tuesday AfterNoon 2M Net @ 1200 Hours

Monday & Thursday Night 40M Net
1930 Hours : 7.165 MHz (+/- 10 kHz)

Thursday 2M Net @ 2000 Hours

All 2 Meter Nets Are Also On EchoLink :
W2MMD-R

Meeting Calendar

General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2026
1900 Hours
Pfeiffer Community Center
Simulcast Live on ZOOM
Meeting ID : 982 4039 1944
Passcode : 091084
Join ZOOM Meeting Link :
https://bit.ly/4s67geS

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026
1900 Hours
W2MMD Clubhouse

"Ask not what your Club can do for you,
Ask what you can do for your Club"
- KA2OSV

"There's More To Ham Radio Than
You Can Possibly Do!"
- K3TS

*** Badges ***

Need a new or replacement badge
Contact "*The Badge Man*"

Chris Prioli AD2CS
chris@ad2cs.com

Question Pool Answers : E6A01:C; E6A02:A; E6A03:C; E6A04:C; E6A05:C; E6A06:B; E6A07:D; E6A08:D; E6A09:A; E6A10:B; E6A11:A; E6A12:D